MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 JANUARY 1983

Tabah Incident

Israel's Foreign Ministry has instructed the Israeli Embassy in Cairo to protest to the Egyptian Government over an incident in Tabah which Israel regards as a violation of the peace treaty, Jerusalem radio reported. According to the radio, the incident began when Egyptian workers guarded by armed gendarmerie destroyed the fence to the demilitarized zone bordering on Tabah, entered the area, and prepared to erect a building. Harsh verbal exchanges ensued between the Israeli and Egyptian liaison officers and the Israeli representative to the joint Israeli-Egyptian committee lodged an official complaint about the incursion and asked the Egyptians to stop their activity at once.

An Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman subsequently announced that the whole affair was merely an "unintentional mistake" committed while Egyptian workers were undertaking operations to "improve service" at the Egyptian outlet of Tabah, MENA reported. Conditions at Tabah were being restored to their previous state, he added. Jerusalem radio shortly afterward confirmed that the situation at Tabah has returned to what it was before the incident and that the Egypians have agreed to remove their equipment and reerect the fence they had pulled down. IDF Radio noted earlier that Israel and Egypt were holding contacts to settle the matter, which Israeli official sources described as a "local incident." Israeli Minister Without Portfolio Yitzhaq Moda'i said Israel should not show restraint in view of such a "blatant violation" of the peace treaty since this would encourage additional violations, the radio reported.

Israel

Peace Council, PLO Meeting -- Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace members Uri Avneri, Ya'aqov Arnon, and Matityahu Peled met last week with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio added that PLO officials Mahmud 'Abbas, 'Isam Sartawi, and 'Imad Shakkur attended the meeting. A joint communique on the meeting said that the two sides discussed ways to promote together a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, according to the radio. During interviews with Jerusalem television and radio, Peled did not confirm the venue of the meeting, but said 'Arafat was "definitely adamant" in his decision to promote political moves toward a "political arrangement" acceptable to all parties. Peled said both sides talked about future meetings with "fewer misunderstandings" and "less furtiveness" than in the past. Asked if council members would go as observers to the February PNC session, Peled indicated they would go if invited. He added that the possibility of receiving an invitation was discussed, but that nothing was decided yet.

Sources at Prime Minister Menahem Begin's office said: "'Arafat met with a fringe element in Israeli society and not those who represent mainstream opinion here," THE JERUSALEM POST noted.

Defense Agreement With Zaire -- A "multiannual" defense cooperation agreement was signed with Zaire, Jerusalem television reported. According to the agreement, Israel will recruit, equip, and retrain a division in Shaba Province, expand the IDF delegation to Zaire, and supply communications equipment, cannon, mortars, and possibly patrol boats, the television added. Jerusalem radio noted that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has returned to Israel.

Lebanon

Qiryat Shemona Talks -- After agreeing in the morning to establish three new subcommittees, the delegations subsequently decided to form another subcommittee on possible guarantees, Jerusalem radio reported. Both Israeli and Lebanese spokesmen said progress was made at the Qiryat Shemona talks, according to communiques broadcast by Jerusalem and Beirut radios. Although Jerusalem radio said the Lebanese had rejected Israel's demand for Israeli-manned early warning stations in Lebanon, the radio later cited an Israeli Foreign Ministry denial that the Lebanese side had raised objections to the stations. Without mentioning the stations, Beirut radio said that while the negotiations took place in good spirits, certain difficulties could not be overcome because of "unacceptable demands" by both sides. The Lebanese rejected an Israeli proposal concerning liaison, and lengthy discussions took place on the withdrawal of non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon and on the "usual conditions" Israel is raising for the withdrawal of its forces, the radio added.

Military, Security Situation -- The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported large-scale Syrian military moves in the Al-Biqa' Valley. Earlier, Druze and Christian militia exchanged fire in the 'Alayh area, according to the Voice of Lebanon radio.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad received Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who arrived on an offical visit, Damascus radio announced. Tehran radio, citing informed sources, reported that Libyan Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi would also visit Syria at the same time for what is expected to be a tripartite meeting of the foreign ministers. Meanwhile, an AL-BA'TH commentary reviewed by Damascus radio accused the United States of "preparing Israel to attack Syria." The United States is making a "clamor" over Syria's acquisition of weapons for self-defense because it is worried that the "aggression" will not be easy and will not produce "guaranteed results," AL-BA'TH asserted.

PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman 'Arafat met in Tunis with a British Foreign Office delegation for talks on the Arab seven-member committee's visit to Britain and on Britain's position on the Palestinian issue, Tunis radio reported.

The PLO Executive Committee and the leaders of the different PLO factions will start a series of meetings in Aden on 25 January, a PLO spokesman announced in a statement reported by the Ash-Shariqah paper AL-KHALIJ. Noting that the recent Executive Committee meeting in Damascus discussed 'Arafat's visit to Moscow, the spokesman said the results of that visit are "very important."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT CONFERS WITH ISRAELI DELEGATION IN TUNIS

Radio Monte Carlo

JN201620 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] We begin this news summary with an urgent dispatch which we received a short while ago from the Palestinian news agency WAFA in Tunis. The dispatch says that Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, today received a delegation representing the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace. The delegation was composed of retired General Matityahu Peled, Uri Avneri, and Ya'aqov Arnon. The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], 'Isam Sartawi, and 'Imad Shakkur.

The conference reviewed the situation in the Middle East in detail and discussed means of joint action for just and lasting peace in the Middle East. Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat expressed his appreciation for the role played by the Israeli peace camp and struggle for the sake of just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

KUNA Report

LD202218 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1620 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Nabil Barad'i report]

[Text] Tunisia, 20 Jan (KUNA) -- PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat met here today with an Israeli opposition delegation representing the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace.

The Israeli delegation consists of retired General Matityahu Peled, Uri Avneri, and Ya'aqov Arnon. The Palestinian side consists of Mahmud 'Abbas, Alias Abu Mazin, Dr 'Isam Sarawi, and 'Imad Shakkur in addition to 'Arafat.

Authorized Palestinian sources said here today that during the meeting "a full review of the Middle East situation and of common efforts for achieving a just and lasting peace in the Middle East" took place.

No other details concerning the meeting are available, but Palestinian sources said that 'Arafat expressed his appreciation for the role being played by what he called the peace camp in Israel and the "struggle of these forces for a just and lasting peace."

'ARAFAT RECEIVES INDIAN, PAKISTANI AMBASSADORS

JN201925 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received the Pakistani ambassador in Tunis. Our correspondent has learned that during the meeting Brother Abu 'Ammar received a message from Pakistani President Ziaul Haq dealing with the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also received at the Palestinian command headquarters in Tunis (Ramish Bandari), Indian deputy foreign minister for West Asian and North African affairs and official in charge of the economic department in the Indian Foreign Ministry. He conveyed to Brother Abu 'Ammar an oral message from Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Mrs Gandhi affirmed the inevitable victory of the Palestinian revolution under the PLO led by the brother leader Abu 'Ammar.

Brother Abu 'Ammar gave (Bandari) an oral message for Mrs Gandhi in which he affirmed the complete cooperation between the PLO and India. Our correspondent has learned that during this meeting the two sides held a comprehensive discussion of developments in the Middle East in general, and the Palestinian issue in particular. They also reveiwed the agenda of the Nonaligned Movement conference scheduled to be held in March in New Delhi.

'ARAFAT MEETS BRITISH UNDER SECRETARY

NC201950 Paris AFP in English 1945 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Tunis, Jan 20 (AFP) -- Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir 'Arafat today held a meeting here with British Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office for Mideastern Affairs Steven Egerton, WAFA news agency reported.

The Palestinian agency said that subjects discussed included Britain's position on the Palestinian issue, the Mid-East conflict in general and the situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

The British-Palestinian contact, WAFA underlined, followed the cancellation last month of an Arab League delegation visit to Britain after British objections to the presence of a Palestinian representative on the team.

Mr Egerton, it was learned, also conferred with Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League.

PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO MEET IN ADEN 25 JAN

GF201840 ASH-SHARIQAH AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 20 Jan 83 pp 1, 14

[Text] Damascus -- PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin, alias Abu Mayzar, has stated that the PLO Executive Committee and the secretaries of the Palestinian organizations will begin a series of meetings in Aden on Tuesday, 25 January, to discuss all issues related to Palestinian action.

In an exclusive statement to AL-KHALIJ, Abu Mayzar said the conferees will discuss the results of the work of 10-member committee that was formed in order to prepare for the upcoming session of the PNC which is supposed to be held in Algeria in February. He added that the meetings will also discuss the work of the Syrian-Palestinian relations "purification" committee.

Abu Mayzar stressed that the Aden meetings will stress Palestinian national unity, which represents not only a means of struggle but also a fundamental necessity for protecting the Palestinian revolution against all conspiracies against it, the foremost of which are the U.S. conspiracies.

As for the Executive Committee meeting held last Sunday, Abu Mayzar said that the results of Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Moscow were discussed. He added: "The results of that visit are very important."

About the future of the seven-member committee and its next moves, Abu Mayzar expressed his belief that the committee reached a deadlock immediately following its first tour during which it visited Washington and met with U.S. President Reagan.

He said: "The seven-member committee came away with nothing from Reagan. It faced a deadlock since the start of its work due to the U.S. insistence on Reagan's plan, which the PLO rejects under all circumstances because it disregards the legitimate Palestinian rights and because it does not offer an acceptable solution to the Middle East question, not to mention that it bypasses the PLO, which expresses the Palestinian people's right to return, the right to self-determination, and the right to establish their independent state on their national soil."

About Palestinian-Syrian relations, Abu Mayzar said: "All those who are sincere know that the joint enemies of the Palestinian revolution and of Syria are planning to create differences between the two sides and are trying to deepen the gap between them." Abu Mayzar added: "However, everyone is alert and will not give the enemies of our nation and revolution any chance."

JANA REPORTS HABASH SIGNED PALESTINIAN STATEMENT

LD191543 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1445 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Jan JANA -- Arab and foreign media have published reports claiming that the Secretary General of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), George Habash, did not sign the statement which was issued last Sunday by Palestinian resistance units in Tripoli.

Contrary to these claims, the PFLP made effective contributions to the decisive resolutions adopted by the leaders of the Palestinian resistance units in Tripoli. Dr George Habash was the first to sign the final statement which included these resolutions.

KHALIL AL-WAZIR LEAVES FOR DAMASCUS, AL-BIQA'

JN210735 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, Fatah Central Committee member and deputy commander of the Palestinian revolution, left Amman for Damascus yesterday.

It has been learned that Abu Jihad will spend a few days in Syria after which he will visit Al-Biqa' to inspect the Palestinian forces there. He will also preside over the Palestinian Military Council meeting scheduled to discuss military developments in the region.

QADDUMI RECEIVES INVITATIONS TO HUNGARY, ROMANIA

JN201914 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, received in Damascus yesterday the Romanian and Hungarian ambassadors. It was learned that during the meeting Brother Abu al-Lutf received official invitations from the foreign ministers of the two countries to visit them. The current situation in the Arab region was discussed.

Brother Abu al-Lutf thanked the ambassadors for the invitations that emphasize the strong ties between the Palestinian people and the friendly Romanian and Hungarian peoples.

GULF AFFAIRS

OMANI-PDRY TALKS TO BE HELD IN UAE 25 JANUARY

LD201142 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 20 Jan (KUNA) -- An official source here has stated to KUNA that the third meeting between the Sultanate of Oman and South Yemen will be held in Abu Dhabi on 25 January with the participation of delegations from Kuwait and the UAE. The Kuwaiti delegation will be led by the head of the Economic Department at the Foreign Ministry, Dr (Tariq Ruzuqi). Members of the delegation will be: the secretary general of the committee for cooperation with the Arabian Gulf countries, Dr Salim Jabir al-Ahmad; the Kuwaiti ambassador to the UAE, Qasim 'Umar al-Yaqut; and an official of the cooperation committee at the Foreign Ministry, Muhammad al-Awadi.

This meeting will be the first following the signing of the agreement of principles between the two countries in Kuwait on 27 October.

OMAN

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM AUSTRIA

GF201752 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah returned to the country today after a 3-day visit to Austria during which he met with the Austrian chancellor, Bruno Kreisky. He also held talks with the Austrian foreign affairs minister, Willibald Pahr, on ways to improve economic relations between the two countries, in addition to the recent developments on the international and Arab arenas, particularly the situation in the Middle East.

Reportage on Visit

For Vienna press and radio accounts of the visit of Foreign Minister Yusuf Al-'Alawi 'Abdallah to Vienna, Austria, his talks with President Kirschlaeger, Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr, and Chancellor Kreisky, and his press conference, see the Austria section of the 19 January Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

SAUDI ARABIA

LONDON PAPER CRITICIZES SAUDI REGIME 'STRATEGY'

PM201355 London AZ-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR in English 14 Jan 83 p 3

[Unattributed article: "Too Little Too Late"]

[Excerpts] Recent Saudi actions would appear to suggest that the Saudi regime is adopting a more 'radical' and less reactionary approach to both foreign affairs and the administration of the Saudi Kingdom. In fact, these actions are cosmetic attempts to disguise the reality of a regime which is at last beginning to realise how out of touch it is with the opinions of ordinary Arabs.

On December 23rd, the state-controlled Riyadh radio warned the Lebanese Government against concluding any accords until all Zionist forces had left Lebanese territory and then only if the accords were linked to a real solution of the Palestinian problem.

The Riyadh radio commentary said that the Lebanese-Israeli talks which were about to start were intended to 'impose treaties conducive to taking Lebanon out of the Arab fold'.

The day before the Saudi radio report, the Saudi newspaper AR-RIYAD reported that King Fahd had restricted imports from Lebanon after it had been revealed that goods which might have been manufactured in Israel had reached Saudi Arabia. At about the same time, it was reported that King Fahd is considering a plan for a new basic Saudi law, intended to eradicate corruption and broaden participation in the regime's decision-making. Fahd has even been reported to have criticised those Saudis who spend all their time gallivanting about Western Europe.

Making a Change?

So what is going on? Has the Saudi regime, a byword [for] corruption and political reaction for decades in the Arab world, suddenly decided to change course completely and establish some kind of links with its own people and with progressive Arabs elsewhere? The answer is no, at least not quite. The present Saudi political strategy is more subtle than that, even if its intent it transpartently obvious to the regime's critics.

The popular Arab reactions to the invasion of Lebanon and to the Fes summit and the Saudi role in both events has quiet probably given the Saudi regime pause for thought. While there are at present no serious diplomatic obstacles to the original Fahd plan within the Arab League (leaving aside countries like the Libyan Jamahiryah which have noting to do with the League's recent deliberations) the Saudi ruling clique is nevertheless aware of the danger in which it places itself by endorsing peace with Israel over the heads of the Arab people.

For the Saudi royal family, the stakes are very high indeed. At the present time, the Saudi regime has to both play a role on the Lebanon stage and at the same time placate its American ally. While throwing nervous glances over its shoulder at the progress of the current arguments over oil prices and production quotas within OPEC. If it is not careful, the Saudi regime stands to face an increasing political isolation, as more and more Arabs throughout the homeland identify it completely with the United States.

Hence the regime's timid attempts to assert its independence of the regional network of states tied in within the US-run security system, the final guarantor of which is the Rapid Deployment Force. Hence also the current 'warnings' to Lebanon not to give away too much too soon. But, should these statements be recognised for the meaningless gestures which they are by the people of the Arabian Peninsula, then King Fahd has up his sleeve what he hopes is a political ace, namely the prospect of the reform of the Saudi system of government.

Basic Law

Thus in December it was reported that Fahd is toying with the idea of promulgating a detailed set of rules, derived from Islamic law that would serve as the basic law of the Kingdom. A major objective of this law would be to eradicate corruption, especially corruption in high places and in the royal family itself, which has earned the regime growing unpopularity.

Sources close to the Saudi family quoted Fahd as saying that he was determined to crack down on rich Saudis who 'shower dancers and singers with bank notes in European nightclubs'. Clearly, the royal family's reputation at home and abroad is beginning to worry Fahd. Thus a new set of rules, based on the Islamic principle of 'shura,' consultation, will provide a channel for the public airing of grievances and for broader participation in the regime's decisions.

Departure

Apparently Fahd instructed his Brother Prince Nayif, the interior minister, to begin planning for the changes a year ago. If this is true, then it will amount to a major departure. But compared with the political experiences of other Arab countries, especially those which have done away with monarchies and dictatorship, the proposed changes will be of little consequence. For instance, they provide no way of diverting some of the national wealth away from the royal family and the ruling clique to the people who remain desperately poor in some parts of Saudi Arabia.

What Fahd is trying to do, both in foreign affairs and at home, looks like being too little, too late. The creaky Saudi system has shown an inability to face up to the challenges of the twentieth century, which given its dictatorial nature is not surprising. The people of Arabia and Arabs elsewhere expect and deserve more. The time will come when they will take matters into their own hands.

UAE

MINISTER LEAVES FOR VIENNA OPEC MEETING

GF201452 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and mineral resourses, called upon all OPEC member-countries to shoulder their responsibilities in dealing with the oil market situation and maintaining OPEC's unity.

In a statement he made before leaving the country early this morning, Dr al-'Utaybah said we should face the situation forthrightly and make decisions which effectively deal with the oil market crisis and plan for the future. He warned of the consequences if the emergency OPEC conference which will be held in Geneva on Sunday fails to reach a comprehensive agreement on the allocation of quotas among OPEC countries. He expressed his belief that the current circumstances are encouraging for reaching an agreement on allocating the quotas and that most of the OPEC countries are ready to accept quotas provided by the market under the current circumstances.

YAR

LEBANESE DELEGATION ENDS VISIT TO SAN'A'

GF191440 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The Lebanese parliamentary delegation headed by Louis Abu Sharaf left San'a' this morning after a 4-day visit to our country, during which it conveyed a verbal message to Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, secretary general of the General People's Congress, from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil dealing with the current situation in Lebanon.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY before his departure, he said that the brother president delivered to him a written message addressed to the Lebanese president. He added that he met with a number of officials and briefed them on the current situation in Lebanon and the current negotiations on the Israeli withdrawal. He concluded his statement by saying that he found from the officials, foremost of whom is Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, full understanding regarding the issues he discussed with them and that the officials expressed full support for the Lebanese issue.

The delegation was seen off by Brother Sa'id al-Hakim, deputy chairman of the People's Constituent Council; a number of officials of the council; the Lebanese charge d'affaires in San'a'; and a representative of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Ministry.

SPOKESMAN CALLS TABAH VIOLATION 'UNINTENTIONAL'

NC201508 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jan (MENA) -- Commenting on foreign information media reports that a number of Egyptian workers in the Tabah area have removed some barbed wire along the Tabah border, an official Foreign Ministry spokesman said today that the whole matter was only an unintentional mistake committed while the Egyptian workers were undertaking operations to improve service at the Egyptian outlet of Tabah.

The official spokesman said that conditions there are currently being restored to previous state.

'Ali Comments on Tabah

TA211150 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 21 Jan 83 pp 1, 11

[Reports by our Arab affairs correspondent 'Oded Granot]

[Text] "Yesterday's entire Tabah affair is based on an error, and is unrelated to our dispute with Israel over the border demarcation at Tabah," Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said last night in a phone conversation with MA'ARIV.

'Ali added that the Israeli charge d'affaires in Cairo, Efrayim Dubek, received a full explanation of the moving on the border at Tabah from the official in charge of the Israel section in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. 'Ali also said that Egypt wants to renew the negotiations with Israel to solve the border dispute.

Yesterday evening, Dubek confirmed having met yesterday afternoon with the head of the Israel section in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, (Shafi' 'Abd al-Hamid). (Al-Hamid) told him that a mistake was involved and that "immediate orders would be given to restore the situation in Tabah to its previous states."

The meeting at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry was held at the initiative of Dubek, who brought an oral message from Jerusalem requesting that Egypt redress the situation and emphasizing that the work of Egyptian tractors in Tabah [apparent line drop from text] that was signed between the two countries in April 1981 concerning the disputed area.

The Egyptian official said that Egypt adheres to the 25 April agreement with Israel, and he told also repeated the desire for Israel to speed up the renewal of the negotiatons over the Tabah border dispute. Dubek answered that Tabah issue was only one of many matters that Israel wants to discuss with Egypt.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry yesterday moved very quickly to stop events in the field which could have developed into a serious diplomatic incident between the two countries. The Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman, (Ra'uf Junaym), quickly issued a statement saying that the action was a mistake committed by workers who were trying to refurbish the Egyptian border point at Tabah. "We are taking action to correct the error," (Junaym) said in his statement, "and are putting the wire fence back up." He also said that Egypt has no intention of building additional structures in the demilitarized zone.

A high-ranking Egyptian source told a Radio Monte Carlo correspondent that Cairo does not want to provide Israel with any pretext for claiming that Egypt has violated the 25 April agreement (which stipulated that no changes be undertaken in the disputed area). Egypt contends that Israel violated the agreement by opening the hotel in the area.

It has been reported that President Husni Mubarak will raise the Tabah issue when he meets President Reagan in Washington next week.

Speaking to MA'ARIV, the Egyptian foreign minister said that one of the subjects Mubarak will discuss with Reagan is Egyptian-Israeli relations in general, "As Navon did when he discussed the relations between Jerusalem and Cairo with the U.S. Administration".

Last night, Israeli sources were inclined to accept the Egyptian version of the Tabah incident.

'ALI PREVIEWS MUBARAK'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON

NC210910 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0725 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stressed that the issues of peace and the Israeli invasion of Lebanon will be priority topics in President Husni Mubarak's talks during his forthcoming visit to Washington. In a statement to the weekly magazine AL-MUSAWWAR published today, 'Ali said: In our forthcoming trip we will tell the Americans that we rule out any possibility of resuming the [autonomy] talks until after the withdrawal of the Israelis from Lebanon and that (?Egypt) will not sign any agreement that runs counter to Palestinian rights.

'Ali added: We will also affirm to the Americans that there must be some positive aspect to encourage the Palestinians to forge ahead in coordinating with the Jordanian stand and that there must be a clear U.S. position on the building of settlements. 'Ali emphasized that the withdrawal of the Israelis from Lebanon constitutes an important touchstone for the U.S. stand. He said: It is important that the Americans feel that the Israeli stalling in withdrawing means that the Arabs will lose confidence in the American ability to push the peace efforts forward.

'Ali asserted that Egypt rejects partition of Lebanon and so do the United States and the Arab and European countries. He pointed out that Egypt believes that the Israeli occupation forces must not be a burden to the Lebanese negotiator. He said: We disapprove of the Israeli occupation imposing conditions of Lebanon that run counter to its sovereignty and create unbearable problems for Lebanon.

On the U.S. stand on the Israeli settlement programs in the West Bank, 'Ali stressed that Egypt will ask Washington to return to the previous U.S. stand on the settlements: That is, that they are illegal and not merely obstacles in the way of peace efforts, as the Reagan administration believes. He said Egypt will demand that the United States adopt the means that it deems can stop the Israeli settlement in the West Bank whether through persuasion of taking specific action. The important thing is that the building of these settlements must stop.

On Egypt's stand on the Palestinian question, 'Ali affirmed that Egypt did not relinquish any of the Palestinian rights. He said that throughout the 3 and 1/2 years of autonomy negotiations, the Egyptian stand did not budge from our original goal -- the achievement of the Palestinian demands. In this respect, 'Ali pointed out that if Egypt supports President Reagan's initiative, it simultaneously retains the Egyptian-French plan at the UN Security Council, a plan which calls for self-determination for the Palestinians. He said this is one of the elements of Egypt's foreign policy.

Regarding the new method that the U.S. Administration may adopt during the new stage of negotiations, 'Ali pointed out that there is first the issue of forming the delegations. He said there are several available alternatives as long as there is agreement among all parties on the need to represent the Palestinians. In this respect, he pointed out that the Palestinian delegation can be formed from some representatives of the West Bank and Gaza. Similarly, the delegation for the forthcoming negotiations can be a unified Arab delegation or a tripartite one consisting of Egypt, Jordan, and the Palestinians. He added: We do not object to the Palestinian delegation's joining the Egyptian delegation if the Palestinians so desire. He emphasized that the venue of negotiations is not necessarly linked to Camp David, in view of the sensitivity of this subject to the Arab parties. He further said: At any rate, I do not believe that the negotiations can begin before the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon or, at least, before a withdrawal timetable is announced.

In commenting on the claims by Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon during his visit to Washington that Egypt violated certain articles of the peace treaty, 'Ali said: I can say clearly that the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty is being fully applied and that Egypt respects it in both its civilian and military parts. 'Ali asserted that the term "normalization" is very elastic in both form and appearance. He said Israel is ignoring the psychological shock that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon has created among the Egyptian people. He noted that Egypt has repeatedly affirmed to the Israeli side that cultural relations are commensurate with the progress of the peace efforts.

On the issues that will be discussed with the U.S. side during the forthcoming visit to Washington by President Mubarak, 'Ali said the current economic (?situation) in Egypt will be the most important one in view of the fact that there are some who think that Egypt is seeking to change its current economic methods. He affirmed that this is quite far from the truth. He said what we have done is to rationalize the economic open-door policy so that it will become a productive one. However, we will never return to the economic option based on a comprehensive order, because this is in the interest of our country and because we feel that the private sector can play an increasing role in development.

AL-BAZ ON MUBARAK'S FORTHCOMING FOREIGN TOUR

NC201600 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jan (MENA) -- Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the Presidential Office for Political Affairs, has stated that President Husni Mubarak's forthcoming visit to the United States, Canada, France, and the United Kingdom and his talks with the leaders of these countries will mainly center on the situation in the Middle East.

In a statement to MENA, Al-Baz said that President Mubarak's talks will center on the need to accelerate the peace efforts on two levels. First, achieving an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon as soon as possible within a framework acceptable to Lebanon, which is the party harmed by the continuation of the Israeli occupation and which needs specific security guarantees to protect it from aggression. Second, accelerating the efforts to resume the talks on the Palestinian issue.

Al-Baz declared that Egypt believes several positive factors have emerged in the Arab world concerning the Palestinian issue. These include the Fes summit conference resolution, the increasing Arab acceptance of the Reagan plan, the outcome of King Husayn's talks in Washington in the last week of December, and Jordanian-Palestinian coordination. He added that we must also not ignore the fact that a state as Iraq now supports Palestinian participation in the peace talks. In this connection, he called on the United States to adopt a stand that will be responsive to these positive factors and that will facilitate the start of expanded peace talks parallel with an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Dr al-Baz said that it is natural that President Mubarak will discuss with President Reagan the Iranian-Iraqi war and the need for the international community, specifically the big powers, to shoulder the responsibility to end this war as soon as possible, particularly since Iraq has declared that it has halted military operations and that it accepts the border agreement signed in Algiers in 1975.

Al-Baz added that the big powers must put pressure on Iran to stop this war and not persist in fighting, which does not benefit the peoples of the area, only causes more tension, and endangers the security and prosperity of the Arab and Islamic peoples.

Concerning relations between Egypt and the countries to be covered by this tour, Al-Baz explained that during the visit emphasis will be laid on cooperation between Egypt and these countries in the economic field, particularly now that the new 5-year development plan in Egypt has been issued following extensive studies which clearly spell out the prospects for investment.

The plan defines the investment projects which take priority. It is the first dvelopment plan since the sixties, and all the friendly states are called upon to participate in it. We welcome the participation of any friendly state in the development process in accordance with the priorities which we have put forward and in accordance with a sound and correct partnership that serves Egyptian priorities.

Al-Baz said that during the visit President Mubarak intends to give special attention to the development and construction projects in Egypt. He expressed hope that the visit will produce tangible results that will ease the suffering of the Egyptian people and that will lay down sound bases for increasing productivity in the various fields of production.

Concluding his statement, Al-Baz said that during the talks special attention will be given to public utility projects in view of their importance for all - strata of the Egyptian people and their effect on the development efforts. This visit is expected to produce concrete results concerning public utilities and development.

COURT RESUMES 'ISMAT AS-SADAT TRIAL 20 JAN

NC201926 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jan (MENA) -- The Ethics Court under court president Counselor Dr Ahmad Rif'at Khafajah resumed its sessions to try 'Ismat as-Sadat and members of his family. It heard the testimonies of Wahib Salih 'Abd ar-Rahman, assistant director general of the Misr Insurance Company's properties, and Ahmad as-Sayyid Khalil, a lumber merchant in Alexandria.

At the end of its about 5-hour session, the court decided to adjourn its session until Saturday to hear the testimonies of 'Abd al-'Azim Ahmad 'Ali, property inspector in the Railroad Authority; Nasr 'Abd as-Salam 'Abd al-Hamid, director general in Alexandria Governorate; and Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Musallami, under secretary in the Housing Ministry.

During the session 'Ismat as-Sadat and his sons Tal'at and Jalal appeared before the court. During yesterday's session, the court had instructed them to appear before it.

A representative of the Cairo Laywers Association had earlier today reconciled the defense team, which had withdrawn, and the court. The court decided that the defense team should appear before it to resume its defense as of today's session.

The court then heard the testimonies of Walib Salih 'Abd ar-Rahman, assistant director general of the Misr Insurance Company's properties, who stated before the court that Jalal 'Ismat as-Sadat had rented two apartments from the company and later relinquished one of them to his mother -- an act contrary to the law, because these apartments cannot be relinquished to others -- and turned the other apartment over to an investment company without obtaining the company's approval to engage in such activities.

The court then heard the testimony of Ahmad as-Sayyid Khalil, a lumber merchant in Alexandria, who said that 'Ismat as-Sadat had taken 30,000 pounds from him in return for paving the way for him to obtain bids from the Arab Freight Company and that when he asked him for the amount, 'Ismat as-Sadat threatened him, saying that he could send him to prison.

GOVERNMENT CORRECTS REPORTS ON BUDGET SURPLUS

NC201748 Cairo MENA in English 1740 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, Jan 20 (MENA) -- The government corrected today a report in the local morning newspapers that the general state budget had achieved a surplus.

The papers had come out with frontpage headlines that the state budget had effected a surplus of 347.6 million Egyptian pounds (about same dollars) in the last six months of last year, instead of an anticipated deficit of 436 million pounds. Later today, Dr. Mustafa as-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade, clarified that the surplus was not in the general state budget but in the monetary budget of foreign currencies.

He said that the state budget is more inclusive than the monetary one. The state budget embraces all aspects of the state economy, while the monetary budget dealt only with currency dealings.

He pointed out, however, that the surplus in the monetary budget still augured well for the country's economy, as it would cut down Egypt's needs for foreign loans.

SADDAM HUSAYN ADDRESSES KURDISH FIGHTERS

JN201300 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Speech by President Saddam Husayn on 19 January upon bestowing medals of valor on Kurdish fighters, place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] I want to commend you for the brave fighting you have been demonstrating in defense of Iraq. The image of this fighting has been conveyed to us by your officers and commanders. I also want to commend through you every loyal Iraqi Kurd who has zealously fought in defense of great Iraq.

We have been informed that you refused to be transferred to the I Army Corps despite the Revolution Command Council [RCC] order. You refused to be transferred to the autonomous region and remained in your units on the battlefront despite the RCC order, which has the force of the law, and which stipulates that the Kurdish draftee or reserve has the right to request a transfer from the III, IV or II Army Corps to the I Army Corps. You refused. In addition to your courageous and loyal stands toward Iraq, this stand is a distinctive sign of the genuineness and maturity of these Iraqis. It is not only you who has refused to abide by the RCC order; there are many Kurds who followed suit.

The era during which colonialism and defeatists fed weak and sick consciences in As-Sulaymaniyah Governorate with devisive currents has gone forever. [words indistinct] The image is now completely different. All hearts and consciences have united, and visions have now become clear. God willing, this image will continue in the future. You may tell me that there are some people in As-Sulaymaniah who continue to carry arms and create chaos there. I agree with you, but I am interested to know whom the majority in As-Sulaymaniyah support. The overwhelming majority in As-Sulaymaniyah support us. Part of this majority is sometimes disturbed by the riotous elements. They ask us to interfere and [word indistinct] so they can freely express their feelings and loyalty to the homeland and Iraq, and participate in building a new Iraq. We are well aware of this.

Khomeyni is completely unaware of the new situation in Iraq. His ideas about Iraq are those he entertained a long time ago, and specifically [word indistinct] of the shah. Some syncophants told Khomeyni that many religious and racial affiliations as well as many nationalities exist in Iraq. They told him: If you say you want to enter Iraq, all the Iraqis will welcome you with joy and you will become an emperor to them. But events have run contrary to his ideas. As Khomeyni's army tried to enter Iraq, the Iraqis, irrespective of their religious and racial affiliation, confronted and dealt severe blows to it. The war has had adverse effects on Khomeyni and he is now unable to move freely in any Tehran street.

New Iraq is worthy of defending. All Iraqis -- Kurds, Turkmen, Arabs -- irrespective of their religion and sect, should fight in defense of Iraq. He who does not fight for Iraq is like one who would not defend his mother. Therefore, I am very pleased with all the Kurds who refused to be transferred to the I Army Corps and [words indistinct]. We consider any law a means to serve the people's interests. Any law that does not serve these interests would be replaced by another that would serve the interests of our people.

What is more important to us is that the Kurdish citizen must feel he has become an ordinary citizen before he carries the gun. [Words indistinct] the commander of the I Army Corps told me: Sir, the number of the [Kurds] enlisted has reached 5,000. The commander later told me that the number has reached 10,000, then 20,000, then 30,000, and then 40,000. Now the number is 48,000. I told him: This is enough.

Is it not better than to have them flee when a policeman approaches them? These Kurds, if they cannot go to school or work, they will become riotous elements. Let me win over these 50,000. First of all, they will become mature, see the homeland, and defend it. They will be the ones to come to me and tell me: Saddam Husayn, Commander, how is it that the Iraqis are the target of aggression and I am here with no gun? I want to carry a gun against this enemy. I have confidence in you. I am reassured. I now know the city and the military service. I have donned a military uniform and have found that military uniforms do not frighten me.

Please convey my greetings to all your brother fighters in your units and formations. Please convey my greetings to all Kurds everywhere and tell them [words indistinct] and I want them always to be on the frontline in defense of Iraq and in building Iraq, because Iraq is their homeland and their honor and banner. God bless you.

COMMUNIQUE: 44 IRANIANS KILLED 19-20 JAN

JN201848 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Communique No 971 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 20 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful the compassionate. Our brave armed forces continue their courageous operations against the forces of the racist Khomeyni regime in the various operations sectors. The results for yesterday and this evening are as follows:

1. One of our frontline units carried out a daring raid on an enemy position in the Maysan operational sector. The unit clashed with enemy soldiers using various weapons. During this swift and successful operation, the unit succeeded in killing 39 enemy soldiers, routing 3 infantry positions, and killing everyone in them, destroying 1 observation post, and seizing several light-medium weapons and a quantity of various types of military hardware which are all serviceable. The enemy also sustained five other dead in the same sector.

2. Our forces destroyed one enemy vehicle and two 106-mm guns east of Basra.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 January 1983

BRIEFS

AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS -- Baghdad, 18 Jan (INA) -- Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi today received the credentials of Qatari Ambassador to Iraq Muhammad Rashid Khalifah al Khalifah and of Djibouti Ambassador to Iraq ('Absiyah Barah 'Abdallah). [Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 Jan 83 JN]

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON USSR FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION

Hasan Receives Delegation

JN201504 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Amman, 20 Jan (PETRA) -- His Highness Crown Prince Hasan received in his office this morning the Soviet friendship delegation, led by the chairman of the Soviet-Jordanian friendship society and USSR deputy minister of health, currently visiting Jordan.

His highness reviewed with the guest delegation the situation in the Middle East in general, the relations of friendship between Jordan and the USSR based on mutual understanding, particularly regarding the Arab issue and the firm Jordanian stand on the Middle East issue and the rights of the Palestinian people. The head of the delegation praised the friendly relations which exist between the two countries. These friendly relations are patronized by His Majesty King Husayn.

The meeting was attended by the USSR ambassador in Amman; Dr Hani Khasawinah, the Jordanian ambassador in Moscow; and the chairman and members of the Soviet-Jordanian Friendship Society.

Joint Friendship Society Meeting

JN200948 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Jan 83 pp 20, 16

[Excerpt] Amman -- AR-RAY -- The relations of friendship and cooperation between Jordan and the USSR have progressed greatly in the various fields and have been strengthened due to meetings and exchange visits by officials and popular leaders in both countries over the past few years. This was stated by Dr Aleksey Safonov, chairman of the Soviet-Jordanian Friendship Society and deputy minister of health in the USSR, during a meeting at the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society building in Amman yesterday.

At the beginning of the meeting, Dr Khalid Hamshawi, secretary of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, welcomed the delegation of the Soviet-Jordanian Friendship Society which is visiting Jordan under Society Chairman Dr Aleksey Safonov. Hamshawi said: The relations between our two countries have been founded by pioneering men in both countries. These relations have reached an advanced stage. Hamshawi also stressed the importance of the Soviet delegation's visit which comes at a delicate and fateful phase in our history when the Arab nation's achievements are being attacked and its cause liquidated by world Zionism. Dr Hamshawi hailed the Soviet stands in support of the Arab nation in its struggle against the Israeli aggression.

The society chairman Dr Rif'at 'Awdah also spoke at the meeting. He stressed the importance of the cultural and technological cooperation between Jordan and the USSR and praised the exchange of visits by delegations from the two countries, which bring their viewpoints closer and allow for explanations of their respective policies. He expressed his admiration for the Soviet policy which is based on rejecting war and giving the peoples of the world the right of self-determination and of political and and economic independence.

Dr Aleksey Safonov then spoke. He expressed his pleasure for the hospitality accorded to the Soviet delegation during its 3-day stay in Jordan. This, he said, reflects the activities of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR MOROCCO 20 JAN

JN201343 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim left Amman today for Morocco to take part in the Jerusalem committee meeting and the meeting of the seven-member Arab committee which emanated from the Fes summit conference. The meetings will begin tomorrow, Friday.

The minister said that the seven-member committee will evaluate the results of its efforts and visits to the United States, the USSR, France, and the PRC. The Jordanian delegation will explain the results of the committee's visits, which were led by King Husayn, to Paris, Moscow, and Beijing and will inform the Arab brothers on the blessed steps which have been taken by the Jordanian and Palestinian sides to determine priorities for the current Arab political moves with the aim of liberating the land and saving the steadfast people in the occupied homeland from the yoke of occupation.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES WALID JUNBLATT

JN201245 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran received in his office today Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party. Badran affirmed to Junblatt Jordan's support for the Lebanese people in their efforts to preserve their independence and territorial integrity and to spread the Lebanese sovereignty over the entire Lebanese territory.

AR-RA'Y ON SIGNIFICANCE OF 'ARAFAT-PELED MEETING

JN210750 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Jan 83

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Significance of the Dialogue Between 'Arafat and Peled," AR-RA'Y says: The recent meeting in Tunis between Yasir 'Arafat and a number of PLO members, on the one hand, and a delegation of the Israeli Council for Peace, on the other, means that this council and its supporters in Israel recognize the PLO as a legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and hold talks with it. It also means that the Council does not agree with the Israeli leadership's intransigent attitude toward the PLO and feels that the work for just and lasting peace in the region must not be delayed any further.

AR-RA'Y adds: This meeting and its results refute the Begin government claims that the Israelis are unanimously against the recognition of the PLO and the establishment of the Palestinian state. General Peled said that the Tunis meeting was preceded by other contacts with the PLO and that the Israeli Council for Peace agrees to the establishment of the Palestinian state.

The paper says: Thus a movement is emerging inside Israel to try to break the deadlock which the Begin government and the traditional leaderships there want to impose on the issue. Although nobody wants to anticipate events or prejudge possible intentions, the emergence of this movement and the statements made by General Peled should provide the U.S. Administration with reasonable justifications to enter into a direct dialogue with the PLO. They should also be a sufficient encouraging signal to that administration to adopt a firmer stand against the Israeli leadership, especially since such a move would improve President Reagan's position before the American public and deprive the Israeli leadership of an important card which it could use to put pressure on President Reagan in the U.S. arena.

AR-RA'Y concludes: Perhaps the U.S. administration will draw the right conclusions from the talks which took place in Tunis and the statements made by General Peled and this will help remove the Israeli obstacles to peace.

AL-JUMAYYIL REVIEWS QIRYAT SHEMONA TALKS

NC201847 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil this evening chaired a meeting of the political operations staff and the Lebanese negotiating delegation. The meeting was later joined by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan.

The meeting reviewed the results of the eighth round of the Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. negotiations in which Israel submitted all its demands and the Lebanese delegation submitted its responses and demands.

The negotiations today took place in a good spirit. However, there were difficulties that could not be overcome because there were unacceptable demands by both sides. The Lebanese delegation rejected an Israeli proposal concerning liaison. In submitting this proposal, the Israelis tried to get through to the context of the substance of normalization.

As for the security arrangements, Lebanon defined the principles for possible consideration of some points in this subject. One of the most important of these principles is adherence to complete Lebanese soveriegnty, adherence to Lebanese-Arab relations and not harming these relations, and adherence to the Lebanonization of all responsibilities throughout Lebanon without affecting the security of other states.

The Lebanese side today raised the subject of the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese armies from Lebanon. A long discussion took place on this subject. During the discussion, U.S. President Ronald Reagan's support of the Lebanese position in this regard was affirmed. A long discussion also took place about the usual conditions which Israel is raising for the withdrawal of its forces and the withdrawal of other forces. Lebanon insisted that the full withdrawal should take place as soon as possible.

The ninth round of the negotiations will take place in Khaldah next Monday, when a plenary meeting will be held. The 10th round will take place next Thursday in Qiryat Shemona. The subcommittees will hold meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday.

CHAIRMEN REPORTED APPOINTED FOR SUBCOMMITTEES

NC201801 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] AFP reported this afternoon that Lebanon has appointed its representatives in the subcommittees [which were created in today's talks in Qiryat Shemona]. They are: head of the Lebanese delegation Ambassador Antoine Fattal, chairman of the subcommittee on the termination of the state of war; Ambassador Ibrahim Kharma and Hani al-Amin, chairmen of the subcommittee on the framework for mutual relations; Brigadier General 'Abbas Hamdan and Colonel Sa'id al-Qa'qur, chairmen of the subcommittee on the withdrawal of foreign forces; Colonel Munir Ruhayyim, chairman of the subcommittee on security arrangements; Judge Antoine Barud, chairman of the subcommittee on possible guarantees.

Israel has not yet appointed its representatives in these subcommittees, according to the reports.

SYRIANS, PALESTINIANS DEPLOY IN AL-BIQA'

NC210733 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Amid the feverish atmosphere that is accompanying the issue of the installation of the SAM-5's -- mentioned by the Syrian information media. Reports from the Al-Biqa' say the Syrian forces are making large-scale military moves. Furthermore, Damascus has deployed Palestinian forces of the pro-Damascus popular and democratic fronts in the Al-Biqa'.

The above report dealt with security in the Al-Biqa'. However, when it comes to security in the mountain, no reports were received this morning on new socialist attacks against the compatriots on the mountain following the tension that reigned supreme yesterday in 'Alayh and in some villages in the 'Alayh district, particularly on the Al-Ghabun-Kafr 'Ammay-Shartun-Majdalayya axes and on the Kafr 'Ammay -Bsaba-Al-Ma'rufiyah axes.

In Tripoli, the removal of barricades from roads continues for the second day. Meanwhile, Internal Security Forces continue to deploy in the city and run patrols.

Yesterday evening the city witnessed an atmosphere of anxiety following a limited clash left two persons dead.

ISRAELIS TAKE UP POSITIONS IN BSABA, OTHER AREAS

NC211034 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] At 0945 today an Israeli force took up positions in the township of Bsaba. This force consists of two Centurion tanks and their crews. Furthermore, other men took up positions in a civilian building also located in Bsaba.

In Al-Ma'rufiyah two other tanks have taken up positions. Furthermore, other men with an M-113 armored personnel carrier and a troop carrier have been observed in Duhur ash-Shuwayfat.

ISRAELI WARPLANES CARRY OUT MOCK RAIDS IN SOUTH

JN211012 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Newsmen in southern Lebanon have reported that the Israeli warplanes have been carrying out mock raids on some targets in southern Lebanon over the past few days. Since early this morning the Israeli Air Force has been carrying out intensive mock raids in the Sidon region.

CALM REPORTED IN 'ALAYH, TRIPOLI 21 JAN

NC210845 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Guarded calm now prevails in the 'Alayh area and no new security setbacks have been reported. The security situation aggravated in 'Alayh at noon yesterday and left a state of caution on the roads due to sniping by the socialists and leftists.

In Tripoli, the Internal Security Forces are reinforcing their positions in the locations pinpointed for them. Meanwhile, calm reigns in the various quarters.

JUNBLATT ON TALKS WITH ISRAEL, OTHER ISSUES

GF200520 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 18 Jan 83 pp 18, 22

[Interview with leader of Progressive Socialist Party Walid Junblatt by AL-ANBA' correspondent Sulayman Nimr in Riyadh -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What is your view on the results of the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations?

[Answer] Lebanon cannot enter into an individual settlement with Israel under the slogan of normalization. We have seen how a big state Egypt paid a high price for the Camp David accords. Lebanon is a small country which is internally and externally torn apart by war, and it is not possible for Lebanon to pay the price of the settlement with Israel alone. In my view, the truce agreement and the UN resolutions are the proper framework for the current negotiations between Lebanon and Israel.

[Question] Do you believe Israel does not wish to withdraw from Lebanon soon?

[Answer] I believe that the U.S. stance is the key to solving the current issue, if the Americans are serious in their proposition and pressures to achieve the withdrawal. Let me say that Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon will pave the way for the success of Reagan's plan, but this does not mean to link Lebanon with the Middle East crisis because this is a long and infeasible process.

[Question] How can you say that Lebanon cannot enter into an individual settlement with Israel when at the same time you call for not linking Lebanon's problem with the Middle East crisis?

[Answer] I say that if the Americans want to link Lebanon with the Middle East crisis and use Lebanon as a means to pressure the Arab countries, then it is a very serious issue. But if the Americans are serious in settling the Lebanese situation and restoring Lebanon's independence and stability, then this facilitates what is called President Reagan's plan for solving the Middle East crisis.

[Question] Do you agree on giving Washington all the cards in solving the Lebanon and Middle East problem?

[Answer] I don't. Our stand is in harmony with our previous principled stand, that is, all the sides should participate in solving the region's problems, whether it is the Lebanese problem or the Middle East problem. We have often stressed the participation of all groups involved in the Middle East crisis, foremost of which is the Palestinians. By this we mean we should return to the Geneva conference.

[Question] What is your explanation of the Soviet absence from what is currently taking place in the region, especially in Lebanon?

[Answer] It is wrong to believe that it is possible the Soviet Union will remain absent for a long period. The Soviet Union has certain interests and it is possible that these interests do not permit it to participate effectively at present in some aspects of the Middle East problem, especially whatever is related to the Lebanese situation. This does not mean that the current Soviet absence is a permanent one.

[Question] Are you still in contact with the Soviets and do you intend to visit the Soviet Union shortly?

[Answer] The party has had relations with the Soviet Union for several years and these relations are still continuing. These relations come out of Soviet support for the Arab issue. There is a possibility that I may visit Moscow in the spring.

[Question] Do you believe Damascus still has a role in the current political movements on the level of the Lebanese problem and, if so, what is this role?

[Answer] We cannot allow Lebanon to be turned into a base which could threaten Syria's security. That stems from the joint interests of Lebanon and Syria and joint national interests.

Any settlement reached by Lebanon with Israel should take into consideration Syria's security interests. We agree that all military forces should depart from Lebanon, but we should differentiate among those forces. The Israeli forces are occupation forces which came as a result of invasion, but the Syrian forces came at the official request of the Lebanese authorities.

[Question] If Israel delays its withdrawal from Lebanese territory and postpones it indefinitely, is it possible you will organize a resistance war against the Israeli presence in Lebanon?

[Answer] Our resistance against the Israeli occupation is a principle; it is a principled matter. This is evident in our confrontation of the Phalangists. We consider our confrontation of the Phalangists as a confrontation against the Israeli occupation, because the Israeli-Phalangist alliance is overt and exposed.

[Question] Do you still cooperate with the Lebanese authorities and with President Amin al-Jumayyil?

[Answer] We still say President al-Jumayyil must be given a chance. The first part of this chance is the efforts he is currently making to achieve an Israeli withdrawal. Here, one must ask the Americans: Do they want to give President al-Jumayyil this opportunity?

[Question] Do you believe there is an Arab role in Lebanon, that is, is this role understood and does it exist?

[Answer] The Arab role in Lebanon is important, very important. The Syrian role in Lebanon is required; the Saudi role is very important and is also required. However, regrettably, the Arab world is scattered and divided against itself. Arab impotency causes Lebanon to be impotent as well and forces it to stand before Israel and the United States alone. However, at this point we must commend the Saudi role in Lebanon during the war and now. Saudi Arabia played a positive role during the war by coordinating with the Palestinian resistance and some of the parties concerned. This role helped comfort the Lebanese as much as possible during the disaster. Saudi Arabia has a great and very important international role, particularly in the United States, since Saudi Arabia can incite Washington to speedy up the process of Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

[Question] A final question: Do you believe that this year will be the start of a solution for Lebanon alone or for the entire Middle East crisis?

[Answer] If the peaceful settlement has no realistic foundations, there will be no solution. The situation in which the Arabs are living does not promise any possibility of a settlement. Why should Israel accept a peaceful solution while Arab impotency is now to its benefit? I don't foresee any early settlement in the region.

QULAYLAT CRITICIZES NEGOTIATIONS AGENDA

NC191534 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement-Al-Murabitun, has affirmed the movement's principled and firm position on the negotiations with Israel. In a press statement, Brother Qulaylat pointed out that the composite agenda is just an agenda of Israeli conditions, the features of which are beginning to become clear.

He said that the conditions are aimed not only at the Lebanese national issue and the prerequisites of sovereignty and independence but also at all the national Arab issues, foremost of which the Palestinian issue.

Brother Qulaylat explained in his statement that the facts of negotiations between two unequal sides and the formation of a committee to discuss the termination of the state of war means -- the acceptance of this condition and, looking at it objectively and scientifically ultimately means bilateral peace with Israel. This indicates that it is considered a form of Camp David.

Brother Qulaylat also announced that the Independent Nasirite Movement has not ruled out the option of armed confrontation in addition to political confrontation. He said: We shall make our own decision on how we shall act.

Brother Qulaylat stressed the need for the national forces to resist any blackmail or any attempt to undermine the independence of the homeland and hitch it to the wagon of foreign influence.

Brother Qulaylat made this statement in reply to two questions about the negotiations and the statements of the commander of the Lebanese Front militias.

PARLIAMENTARY MISSIONS RETURN; STATEMENTS MADE

NC201303 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Excerpts] The parliamentary delegation led by Dr Amin al-Hafiz and including deputies Mikha'il ad-Dahir, Hamid Dakrub, Michel Ma'luli, and Butrus Harb returned to Beirut this morning from Doha after an Arab tour to Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, and Qatar.

At the airport, Dr al-Hafiz made a statement in which he said:

[Begin recording] In fact our tour to the four capitals which we had visted -- Amman, Baghdad, Kuwait, and Doha -- was a successful one. We received there every hospitality and appreciation. I take this opportunity to ask their excellencies, the Arab ambassadors, present here to convey our thanks and appreciation of this hospitality and the interest in our Lebanese question which we met during this tour. We conveyed to the heads of state of these countries a message from His Excellency President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and reviewed the Lebanese situation and the circumstances through which Lebanon is passing. We discussed these affairs in depth. We sensed the readiness of these states to support Lebanon in its stand. We know that the Arab support, when it is effective and in practice, helps Lebanon a great deal in the difficult period through which it is passing at present. This was what we actually felt and this was what has been confirmed to us. We will brief the president on the outcome of the talks we had and on what the heads of states and officials in these states have provided us with. We will then have another interview for the public.

[Question] Lebanon, as it was known during your tour, has centered on the withdrawal of all foreign troops from its territory. Have you felt from our Arab brothers an intention to support Lebanon in this respect?

[Answer] The Arab states which we visited have expressed, through their heads of state, every readiness to support Lebanon in its stands and in what it requests. [end recording]

The Lebanese delegation led by Deputy Louis Abu Sharaf and including Deputies 'Uthman ad-Dana, Tawfiq 'Assaf, and Tariq Habshi returned at noon today from North Yemen via Jidda after an Arab tour to Oman, Bahrain, UAE, and the South and North Yemens.

Deputy Abu Sharaf made a statement about the results of the tour, in which he said:

[Begin recording] In fact, we have carried out the mission with which we have been entrusted and we have briefed the Arab officials, with whom we met, on the real and clear picture as seen by the Lebanese president and his government, both of whom have full popular support. We also acquainted them with the official Lebanese stand regarding the events, occupation, negotiations, and regarding the presence of foreign forces in Lebanese territory, which do not contribute to uniting the territory and people but detract from its sovereignty and independence. It pleases us to say that the Arabs with whom we met -- in spite of the state of anxiety and danger prevailing in the whole area -- have been thankful to the Lebanese president and government for their daring stand, particularly since the president as an official has been anxious to safeguard his constitutional oath. They support the president in making the appropriate Lebanese decision to save Lebanon and are prepared to support the president's call for our natural, legitimate, and sacred right -- namely, that of full sovereignty over our territory with no one to dispute us and no one to deny us this. [end recording]

LIBERAL PARTY DENIES HADDAD VISIT, OPPOSITION

NC202008 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Statement issued by the National Liberal Party leadership bureau on 20 January]

[Text] The U.S. magazine NEWSWEEK has published a report to the effect that [word indistinct] are engaging in activities directed against the present government in Lebanon, that Dany Sham'un, who leads the Laronites, who are opposed to Al-Jumayyil's party, recently visited ["Free Lebanon" Commander] Major Sa'd Haddad and that Israeli sources have stated that this visit could not have taken place except with Israel's approval.

This report published by the said magazine is untrue and contrary to the facts. Dany Sham'un has denied the report in a letter he has sent to the said magazine, asking it to publish the denial in its next issue.

The National Liberal Party leadership announces that the relations between it and the present government and the Lebanese Phalangist Party are excellent and unblemished.

SHAYKHANI ON MEETING WITH TUNISIA'S ES-SEBSI

NC191410 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, accompanied by Tunisian Ambassador in Beirut Sa'id bin Mustapha, today resumed his visits with Lebanese officials. Yesterday he visited President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil to convey a message from Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba. At 0930 today he visited Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan at his office in Government House. He said that he discussed various subjects with the prime minister.

From the Government House, the Tunisian foreign minister went to the Information Ministry where he was received by Minister Roger Shaykhani. The discussed various political, local, and international subjects as well as bilateral affairs.

After the visit, the guest minister once again expressed the desire and hope that Lebanon will regain its strength and infrastructure and will return to what it used to be, an unalienable and basic part of the Arab world and a pillar of civilization, freedom, and progress.

Answering a question, the Tunisian minister denied an anti-Lebanese campaign is being waged.

Minister Shaykhani said: I was very pleased to have this opportunity. I have been able to clarify certain matters with him about what was termed the Tunisian press campaign against Lebanon. There has been a complete clarification. I asked him about all the points I believed, as part of my duty as minister of information, I should raise with him. His answer was very clear and very frank. He declared that Tunisia supports Lebanon and the Lebanese question without hesitation. If there had been a campaign, as reported in the press, this was due -- according to him -- to the freedom which the press enjoys in Tunisia. Subsequently, if we believe that there has been any transgression of freedoms and the principle of freedom as we all understand it, we can bring action against the owner of the paper. However, in general there is a firm assurance by the Tunisian foreign minister of support for the Lebanese stances. His arrival in Lebanon is a confirmation of what he told me in this respect. The cooperation between Lebanon and Tunisia continues and I believe there is a complete understanding. Tunisia's support of the Lebanese question and Lebanon's stand is complete. I hope that the future will prove this to us so that we may bring Lebanon to a safe haven.

Asked whether he had gathered from the Tunisian minister that Tunisia will present some practical steps to Lebanon to confirm its solidarity with it, Minister Shaykhani said: This matter concerns the foreign minister and I have no right to encroach upon the jurisdictions of my colleague Dr Elie Salim. You can pose this question to him. He will definitely have an appropriate answer on this subject.

Asked if the discussions dealt with an coordination between the two countries at the informational level, particularly in respect to the negotiations, he said: This has been the understanding, but the coordination is not my concern. Coordination concerns the Foreign Ministry. Minister Salim will definitely hold meetings and discussions on this subject.

At 1130 the Tunisian guest visited Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Kamil al-As'ad, with whom he discussed current Lebanese and Arab political affairs.

ES-SEBSI MAKES STATEMENT ON TALKS, DEPARTS

NC201312 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] At midday today, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim went to the airport to see off the Tunisian foreign minister, Beji Caid es-Sebsi, who concluded his official visit to Beirut.

The Tunisian minister made a statement in the airport, in which he said:

[Begin recording in progress] ...results and purpose of this visit. The purpose of the visit is to come to Lebanon to convey our solidarity, as we said before, with the Lebanese legitimate authority represented by the president of the republic, the constitutional establishments and the Lebanese Government. We support Lebanon's effort to achieve territorial integrity, restore its sovereignty over all its territory, and free the country from the Israeli presence.

[Question] Has the Lebanese Government asked the Tunisian authorities to put any pressure upon some factions or Arab parties to withdraw from Lebanon?

[Answer] By God, I do not know how you, newsmen, imagine such expressions such as pressure, force, and blackmailing. That is not what is required. Circumstances dictate that every person act according to his conscience and according to what achieves the goals for which we are working. I believe that pressure must be brought on Israel, which is occupying Lebanese territory. I believe that all friends of Israel, foremost of which is the United States, should bring pressure upon Israel to leave Lebanon and respect international legitimacy. This is the duty of every free man who abides by the laws -- to bring pressure on Israel to achieve this goal.
[end recording]

CSSR ENVOY BRIEFS AL-WAZZAN ON PRAGUE CONFERENCE

NC201035 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] At 1000 today, Prime Minister Shariq al-Wazzan received the Czechoslovak ambassador to Lebanon, with whom he reviewed the situation in Lebanon and in the area and the relations between the two countries.

The ambassador briefed Prime Minister al-Wazzan on the statement issued by the Socialist International conference held in Prague on 4 and 5 January. The statement includes a strong support of Lebanon and a condemnation of the Israeli invasion of Lebanese territory. The statement also calls on Israel to withdraw from all Lebanese territory.

AL-ASAD, KHADDAM MEET IRAN'S VELAYATI

JN201656 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] At 1315 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and his delegation. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, the Iranian ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting they discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern. The Iranian minister conveyed the greetings of the Iranian leadership to the president. The president also asked the minister to give his greetings to the leaders of the revolution and government in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

At 1700 today, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister and Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati met at the Foreign Ministry. The meeting was attended by Nasir Qaddur, assistant foreign minister; Seyyed Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, assistant to the Iranian Foreign Minister; Seyyed Mohammad Hoseyn (Duashmi), director general of the Department of Asia and Africa in the Iranian Foreign Ministry; and the Iranian ambassador in Damascus.

During this meeting they discussed the current international situation, especially in the Middle East, and also touched on the two friendly countries' bilateral relations.

AL-AHMAR RECEIVES USSR AGRICULTURAL DELEGATION

JN201558 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] This morning 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received the USSR agricultural delegation currently visiting the country at the invitation of the Ba'th Party National Command. The meeting was attended by Comrade Muhammad Haydar; National Command member and director of the party's External Relations Commission; and Viktor (Vasilyev), charge d'affairs at the USSR Embassy in Damascus.

The assistant secretary general welcomed the delegation and said: This visit, which is taking place within the framework of the cooperation agreement between the Ba'th Party and the CPSU, contributes positively to the continuous development of relations between the two parties and countries. This cooperation has reached a new and distinguished stage since signing the friendship treaty between Syria and the friendly USSR.

During the meeting Comrade al-Ahmar outlined the economic and social development in Syria in the various fields since the revolution and said: The revolution has been able to make important and great achievements in building the socialist society, despite the difficulties facing the country due to its confrontation with the Zionist enemy. He also pointed out the dangers of the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary designs being carried out in the Arab region, and which are represented by the invasion of Lebanon and occupation of a part of its lands by Israel. This occupation constitutes part of the continued U.S.-Zionist aggression to impose hegemony over the region and liquidate the Palestinian question. He added that the current events in the region indicate that great conspiracies are being planned to liquidate the Palestinian question which is the basic issue.

He affirmed that the United States is using its full strength to carry out these designs. Comrade al-Ahmar also stressed Syria's stand on steadfastness and confrontation against the Zionist enemy and the imperialist designs, by building its intrinsic power and strengthening relations with strategic friends, particularly the USSR, which is friendly and honest in its relations with us.

The head of the Soviet delegation praised the good and developed relations between the CPSU and the Ba'th Party. He also praised the economic progress he witnessed during his visit to Syria and stressed continued USSR support for Syria and the Arab nation in facing the Zionist enemy. He expressed his satisfaction with the outcome of the visit.

REPORT ON SYRIAN-VIETNAMESE JOINT STATEMENT

JN210856 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The joint statement, which was issued today on the talks held between the Vietnamese Communist Party [VCP] and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, stressed the keen desire of Vietnam and Syria to further promote the relations between the two parties in the service of their joint struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction. The VCP delegation praised the tremendous multfaceted gains attained by the Ba'th Party led by its secretary general, struggler President Hafiz al-Asad. The delegation commended the bold struggle being pursued by the Syrian people alongside the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples against the grave schemes which are engineered by imperialism and Zionism. The Vietnamese delegation affirmed the VCP's support for this struggle and considered the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the SRV and Syria as a significant factor in cementing the joint struggle between the countries and the socialist camp countries. For its part, the Ba'th Party delegation praised the important and historical victories scored by the Vietnamese people as they were resisting the U.S. imperialist aggression.

The two sides strongly condemned the bestial Israeli aggression against Lebanon, which is supported and backed up by the United States, and the concomitants of this aggression, such as the terrorist practices against and mass destruction of Lebanese villages and towns. They stressed the need for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli aggressors. The two sides considered the acts of aggression and terrorism as a direct fruit of the Camp David course and the strategic cooperation treaty between the United States and Israel, which aim to liquidate the Palestinian issue, wipe out the Arab national liberation movement, and strike at its steadfast stronghold, Syria. The two sides reiterated their resolute condemnation of the Camp David course, stressing that the just and lasting peace in the Middle East region cannot be achieved without the full Israeli forces; withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the national inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

The two sides expressed their solidarity with all the peoples in Indochina in their relentless struggle for the sake of preserving their national independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and safety. They condemned the policy of military intervention and presence being pursued by U.S. imperialism in the Indian and Pacific Oceans, the Arab Gulf, and Horn of Africa.

The Syrian and Vietnamese sides expressed their full support for the struggle being waged by the Latin American, Asian, and African peoples against imperialist and racist Zionism for the sake of peace, national independence, and social progress. The two sides noted with satisfaction the progress made in the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two parties and countries, affirming their continuing efforts to develop and promote these relations in the service of the two parties, two peoples, and two countries. Within this context, the two sides signed an agreement for joint cooperation between the two parties for the year 1983-1984.

REPORTAGE ON 'ARAFAT-ISRAELI DELEGATION MEETING

Meeting Reviewed

TA201722 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Members of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace Uri Avneri, Ya'acov Arnon, and Matityahu Peled met last week with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, our correspondent Asher Schwartz reports. Exactly when and where the meeting took place is not known. Taking part in the meeting on 'Arafat's side were members of the PLO Executive Committee Mahmut 'Abbas, 'Isam Sartawi, and 'Imad Shakkur. The Sheli spokesman has reported that at the meeting, the situation in the Middle East was reviewed, and possible joint activities for achieving a just and lasting Middle East peace were examined. Yasir 'Arafat expressed appreciation for the activities of the peace forces in Israel on behalf of a just and lasting peace.

Joint Communique Issued

TA201808 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The members of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace Uri Avneri, Ya'aqov Arnon, and Matityahu Peled met with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat last week and this evening the Council and the PLO issued a joint comminque on the meeting.

The communique states that both sides discussed ways to promote a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Our correspondent Aharon Barne'a reports from the Palestinian News Agency that the meeting was held in Tunis and in addition to 'Arafat, it was also attended by members of the Executive Council Mahmud 'Abbas, 'Isam Sartawi, and 'Imad Shakkur.

The WAFA announcement described the participants in the meeting as leading Israeli figures, and it was noted that Matityahu Peled is a reserve IDF major general.

Peled Interviewed on Meeting

TA201741 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1710 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Interview with Dr Mati Peled by anchorman Oded Ben-'Ami on 20 January -- live]

[Text] [Question] Dr Mati Peled, good evening.

[Answer] Good evening.

[Question] Could you tell us where your meeting with 'Arafat was held?

[Answer] No, I cannot, because it was agreed that the name of the venue would not be mentioned.

[Question] What did you discuss at that meeting?

[Answer] As the announcement read, the situation in the entire Middle East was discussed. It was decided that the contacts between the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace and the PLO exist and are officially recognized, contrary -- as everyone knows -- to previous attempts to discount it. It was decided that the common goal is to strive through all the possible political measures for the attainment of peace in the Middle East. We for our part, will continue to do what we have done up to know, which is to preach the solution which we regard as the right and practical one, whereas the PLO for its part, would pursue its political efforts, with both parties fully realizing that we are aiming at an identical solution.

[Question] Dr Peled, was it possible to gather from what you heard from Yasir 'Arafat that there is an intention to come out with some sort of announcement favoring contacts, or favoring a PLO recognition of Israel? Could you hear remarks advocating or supporting Palestinian representation by King Husayn in talks with Israel?

[Answer] Look, in the course of the talks we heard a lot of things, but of course in regard to all of the PLO's official positions, this should come through their statements What I could say for certain is that Yasir 'Arafat and the team of his closest aides are adamant on the decision to promote the political moves so it would be possible to reach a political arrangement [hesder] that would be acceptable to all parties.

[Question] If so, I understand that no change has occurred regarding their well-known position, and I infer this from the fact that you have not specified anything new?

[Answer] What do you mean by their well-known position?

[Question] The PLO's position that it is an organization whose goal is to annihilate the State of Israel.

[Answer] No, that is not their well-known position. This is an unknown position. Their position, which has been well-known for some years now, is that they are striving to establish their own national state alongside Israel, and of course, this is what they are aiming at. They have already reached an agreement [sikum] on this, formulated with the concurrence of the Arab summit held in Baghdad in 1978. They repeated it at the Fes summit that was held last year. The position is to reach coexistence rather than the annihilation or liquidation of any one of the parties [words indistinct].

[Question] Dr Peled, is the reason that you are not mentioning the name of the place where you met something else besides the fear that those who met with Yasir 'Arafat -- and you were among them -- would be tried? Does the possibility that you also visited some Arab country also exist?

[Answer] First of all, regarding the fear that we would be tried, this fear does not exist at all because our meetings with the PLO have been going on since 1976. They were and are known to the Cabinet. They were discussed by the Knesset at the time, and were called contacts that involve nothing that would necessitate legal action. The reason why I refrain from noting the site of the meeting is much more simple: The people with whom we met are being persecuted by a number of world elements -- and I would not like to elaborate right now -- and clearly their movements are being kept confidential to the extent possible so they would not fall into the trap someone is laying for them. It is inconceivable that a meeting with us would constitute a pretext for the revelation of their moves or movements. This is the only reason, and were it not for this consideration, I would have shown no hesitation to say where we met. All our actions and all the actions of our Council are within the law and according to the law, and not one of us has any intention of violating it at any stage.

[Ben-'Ami] Thank you very much, Mati Peled.

Topics Raised With PLO Discussed

TA201953 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Interview with Dr Matityahu Peled by Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari in the Jerusalem studio on 20 January -- live]

[Text] [Question] Dr Peled, what is meant by ways to conduct joint activity with the PLO?

[Answer] The meaning is ways that will ensure that there will be no misunderstandings regarding the intention (?to pressure) the PLO, that is, to reach the point where they could establish a state of their own alongside Israel and exist in peace with it, and for our part, to do everything possible to prevent misunderstandings here and prevent the possibility of groundless and irresponsible propaganda, which is often conducted against the PLO in Israel, that disrupts the intentions of the PLO.

[Question] In other words, a commitment by 'Arafat to moderate his own statements and those of official PLO spokesmen?

[Answer] I will not say there is a commitment to moderate declarations, because I do not know which declarations should be moderated. What is spoken of here, is that, in a consistent way, all the activities that will be done both here and by them will be aimed at making it clear to the world and the public in Israel that the intention is to achieve peace by political paths -- a peace that would make room for both states to live here in peace.

[Question] Were concrete plans raised during your lengthy discussion?

[Answer] Our Council's plan is known, and was published back in 1976 and appears in all the important anthologies on the Middle East. It speaks explicity about ... [interrupted]

[Question] I mean about concrete joint steps in the future.

[Answer] We talked about meeting, as in the past, but this time with fewer misunderstandings, less furtiveness, in order to increase the awareness of all those involved of the need to progress toward a solution.

[Question] Will you go as observers to the session of the Palestinian National Council in Algiers next month?

[Answer] If we are invited. It is not certain that we will be invited. I suppose that if we do get an invitation we will go.

[Question] Did you discuss the possibility of being invited?

[Answer] We discussed the possibility, but nothing has been decided yet.

[Question] Did the matter of the PLO's withdrawal from Lebanon in the context of the withdrawal of the foreign forces crop up?

[Answer] No, we did not discuss it, nor did we put ourselves in the position of being able to discuss these concrete matters that are being discussed in the negotiations between the governments. Absolutely not.

[Question] Did the matter of the prisoners arise?

[Answer] We do not deal with the matter of the exchange of prisoners. However, it was made clear to us that a different member of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace is dealing with the matter of the exchange of the prisoners on Israel's behalf.

[Question] One last question, Dr Peled: What about the legal aspect. Involved is a trip to Tunis and a meeting with 'Arafat. Are you afraid that any kind of measures might be taken against you?

[Answer] I am not confirming that we were in Tunis; let there be no misunderstanding here. However, I would like to make it clear that our council, from its birth to this very date, and in the future, too, will only operate within the law and according to the law.

[Ya'ari] Thank you very much.

[Peled] You are welcome.

Official 'Sources' on Meeting

TA201910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Official sources in Jerusalem reacted this evening to the meeting held by several Israeli figure with Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis, saying that those talks have no value because there are almost no differences of opinion between the Israeli figures and their PLO interlocutors.

Begin's Office on Meeting

TA210829 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Jan 83 p 1

[Excerpt] Sources at the prime minister's office reacted to news of the meeting by saying that "the persons Yasir 'Arafat described as prominent Israelis failed to elect even a single member to the Knesset. 'Arafat met with a fringe element in Israeli society and not those who represent mainstream opinion here."

The reference was to the membership of the three men in the Sheli party, which failed in the last elections to win a mandate.

Uri Avneri created a furor last summer whenhe met 'Arafat during the IDF siege of West Beirut.

HABIB MEETS SHARON; SHAMIR TO MEET BEGIN

TA211032 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] The dispute between Israel and the United States over the arrangements [hesderim] in Lebanon has not been settled. This was revealed after a meeting between Philip Habib and Ministers Shamir and Sharon this morning. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the main topics of discussion in the meeting were the security arrangements Israel is demanding be established in Lebanon when the IDF leaves. The defense minister explained why Israel is firm in its opinion that warning stations should be established in Lebanon for a limited and agreed period of time. He explained that Israel does not think, as suggested, that UNIFIL soldiers are capable of ensuring that the PLO will not return to the areas it left. The foreign minister stressed that the United States should unequivocally support the normalization between Israel and Lebanon.

Habib is about to meet Prime Minister Begin for a briefing. This afternoon, he will leave for Beirut and will return to Jerusalem next week.

REPORTAGE ON ISRAEL-LEBANON NEGOTIATIONS

Warning Stations Not Discussed

TA201125 Jersalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] In Qiryat Shemona, the heads of the Israeli, Lebanese, and U.S. delegations are now convening for an unofficial discussion.

Sources in the Israeli delegation told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that the matters of the warning stations and Major Sa'd Haddad's status were not raised in this morning's talks. Meanwhile, progress was made in the discussions of the subcommittee dealing with the legal aspect of Israeli-Lebanese relations. It was also decided this morning in Qiryat Shemona to set up three subcommittees, one for security arrangements, one for the withdrawal of the foreign forces, and one for the relations between the two countries. A fourth committee, which deals with the legal aspect of the relations between the two countries, was established last week.

Trade Issues Discussed

TA201222 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Excerpt] The Israeli, Lebanese, and U.S. delegation this morning discussed the passage of people and merchandise between Israel and Lebanon. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the issue was discussed at the insistence of the Israeli delegation.

Fattal Claim Denied

TA201832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] In Jerusalem the Foreign Ministry spokesman has denied that Lebanon's Antoine Fattal today voiced his government's objection to the setting up of Israeli warning stations in southern Lebanon. The Israeli spokesman said Fattal did not raise the issue in the plenary session.

Tomorrow, U.S. envoy Philip Habib is to meet with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and the Israeli negotiating team in Jerusalem. Habib is expected to travel later to Beirut. Reporter David Essing says Israeli officials expect an intensification of the negotiations next week now that more subcommittees have been formed. Summing up the negotiations to date, the officials said that the first five sessions went slowly, but good progress has been made in the last three meetings.

Morning Session Summarized

TA201239 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Report from Qiryat Shemona by (Vivian Roystein) -- live]

[Text] The negotiations opened today in Qiryat Shemona at 10 am sharp in fine weather and good spirits. At 11 am, Avi Pazner, the Israeli spokesman for the talks, had the following to say:

[Begin Pazner recording] I wanted to inform you that the plenary has not adjourned, and that the heads of the delegations are meeting informally. This morning, we decided to set up three subcommittees, which will start meeting next week. [end recording]

The three subcommittees will be dealing with a framework for mutual relations, security arrangements, and withdrawal of all foreign forces. These three subcommittees are in addition to the subcommittee set up last week to discuss the legal status of the relations of Israel and Lebanon under the subtitle: "The Termination of the State of War." Antoine Fattal, the head of the Lebanese delegation, said that they are depending on Habib's presence to speed up the negotiations. Pazner maintains that the direct negotiations are only being held in Qiryat Shemona and Khaldah, and U.S. envoy Philip Habib is now in Jerusalem. In response, Arthur Berger, spokesman for the U.S. delegation, said:

[Begin Berger recording] Ambassador Habib came to the region with a mandate and instructions from President Reagan to do everything that he can to speed up the negotiations.

And that's what he's trying to do. He's having intensive discussions with that aim in mind. Ambassador Habib's stay in Jerusalem now is complementary to the direct negotiations that are going on among the three delegations in Qiryat Shemona and Khaldah. [end recording]

The heads of the three subcommittees are presently meeting informally. They are expected to continue meeting Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. A suggested possible venue is the Israeli town of Herzliyya, near Tel Aviv, or Khaldah, in Lebanon.

20 Jan Talks Summarized

TA201538 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1515 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Report by Hayim Hecht -- recorded]

[Text] The afternoon session with the Israeli and Lebanese delegations resulted in the establishment of another subcommittee. The entire day of deliberations ultimately resulted in four subcommittees. This is how Foreign Ministry spokesman Avi Pazner summed things up:

[Begin Pazner recording] Four new subcommittees were established to examine in detail the problem of the security arrangements [hesderey], the framework of the bilateral relations, the withdrawal of all the forces, and possible guarantees. [end recording]

A subcommittee dealing with the legal situation regarding Israeli-Lebanese relations is already in operation. There was a discussion today, although no decision was made, on the establishment of yet another subcommittee that would deal with the legal formulation of the other subcommittees' resolutions.

Is this flood of subcommittees an organizational gimmick, or does it point to substantive progress [hitqadmut]? This, of course, was the question the reporters asked the Foreign Ministry spokesman.

[Begin Pazner recording] Today we made fine progress in our talks. In the plenum, we discussed the issues in principle, trying to reach an understanding on these issues, and when this is achieved, the subject is then transferred to the subcommittee, where in each subcommittee there are experts. [end recording]

As will be recalled, in the first 2 weeks of the talks, there was a dispute on the agenda and the priorities of the various subjects. Israel demanded [darsha] first a debate of the question of normalization, and only then on the removal of the IDF from Lebanon, while the Beirut delegation demanded [tav'a] that the subjects be dealt with in the opposite order. So, the establishment of the subcommittee is making a square out of the circle: There is an agenda, there is an order of priorities, but all the issues will be dealt with simultaneously.

The magic solution was a U.S. concoction, so there is no wonder why the spokesman for the U.S. delegation was satisfied:

[Begin Arthur Berger recording -- in English]

We are satisfied with the work. The discussions went rather smoothly in a very cordial atmosphere. [end recording]

At the last session, the Israeli delegation raised the issue of the early warning stations in Lebanon, demanding [darsha] that they be manned by Israeli soldiers.

Antoine Fattal rejected this demand [tvi'a] outright, announcing that Lebanon would not accept the presence of any foreign soldier on its soil. It was agreed that the matter would be discussed at the subcommittee discussing the security arrangements [hesderey].

'TRUE SECRET' U.S.-JORDANIAN ACCORD REPORTED

TA202010 Tel Aviv YOMAN HASHAVU'A in Hebrew 20 Jan 83 p 17

[Report by Moshe Yahalom]

[Text] Jerusalem was shaken this week when it learned of the true secret agreement between President Reagan and King Husayn concerning Judaea and Samaria. According to the agreement, the White House has promised to return to Jordan 100 percent of the lands of Judaea and Samaria -- 97 percent directly, and 3 percent in land exchanges -- and not as published in MA'ARIV. Husayn was also promised the return of east Jerusalem. One of the places mentioned in the context of land exchanges was the Latrun enclave through which the new Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway passes.

This revelation also explains why Reagan refrained from consulting Israel before unwrapping the U.S. peace plan which bears his name. It was clear to Secretary of State George Shultz that Israel would reject the plan.

As will be recalled, the U.S. Administration at the time took an unconventional step by not consulting Jerusalem, relying on Israeli public opinion which, according to Washington assessments, would prevent the Israeli Government from refusing to reach an agreement with Jordan even if the price of peace were heavy and unacceptable to Jerusalem.

It is against this background that the U.S. game in Lebanon and the efforts by Habib and Draper to convince Amin al-Jumayyil to make a peace agreement with Israel dependent on a comprehensive Middle East peace can be understood. The assessment in Washington had been that if Israel were to balk at entering negotiations with Jordan in cooperating with elements associated with the PLO, the steamroller of world opinion would be brought to bear against Israel, as though it were stubbornly refusing to achieve peace with two more countries -- Lebanon and Jordan.

The question Jerusalem has not yet answered is whether Shim'on Peres was informed of this White House plan at this meeting with Reagan and whether he agreed to it. In this regard, Washington hinted at the time that it would view with favor a change of government in Israel.

At the State Department, it is said that Israel must adopt the model of its peace talks with Egypt to Jordan also, and that just as it returned the entire Sinai to Egypt, it must return Judaea and Samaria to the Kingdom of Jordan. Husayn himself has made it clear to the White House that he could not receive less than As-Sadat and Al-Jumayyil received from Israel in exchange for his agreement to reach peace.

In order not to deviate from the Camp David accords, the White House has recommended adhering to the autonomy plan for Judaea and Samaria in the second stage, after the autonomy period lapses, implementing the Reagan plan for the establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation with two parliaments and one government in Amman. The other condition stipulated by Husayn was the shortening of the autonomy period as much as possible. There are reports that Washington has agreed to reduce the autonomy period to 1 year instead of 5 as required by the Camp David accords.

According to Jerusalem assessments, President Reagan will hold full talks about his plan with Prime Minister Menahem Begin during his visit planned for February. The possibility should not be ruled out that Jerusalem will decide on holding new elections in order to put the Reagan-Husayn plan to a public test.

Commentators assess that Jerusalem will apparently agree to such a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation on the condition that it be linked with Jordan only, and not include a Palestinian parliament, and leave the practical control of Judaea and Samaria in Israeli hands and provide that Israel be allowed to continue its extensive settlement of the West Bank.

JORDAN INCORPORATES SAM-8'S INTO DEFENSE SYSTEM

TA210720 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Jan 83 p 1

[Report by military correspondent and "exclusive" report from Washington by the U.S. correspondent]

[Excerpts] The SAM-8 batteries Jordan bought from the Soviet Union have already reached Jordan and have been incorporated into their air defense system together with other Soviet equipment and U.S.-made Hawk missiles.

The Jordanian-Soviet deal was signed last year, and included ZSU-23 radar-directing artillery and SAM-8's. The latter are intended for low- and medium-altitude aircraft.

This system includes the radar mounted on the launching vehicle, not separately as in the SAM-6's. Syria also received such missiles after the war, and the air force has attacked them in Al-Biqa'. It should be noted that there is no similarity between the SAM-8's and the SAM-5's the Syrians have recently obtained. The latter are intended to counter high-altitude aircraft, so their range is especially long, which is why it is considered a strategic system.

By receiving the SAM-8's, Jordan has reinforced its air defense systems; however, Amman insists that it must purchase additional U.S.-made Hawk missiles. In addition to the 14 batteries of improved Hawk's, it also wants to procure mobile Hawk systems. So far, this request has not been approved by Washington, but various reports say this was already promised to the Jordanians and now a propitious opportunity is awaited to bring the deal before Congress. Israel regards the Jordanian deployment as a development making it easier for Jordan to adopt an offensive strategy.

The U.S. Correspondent Reports

Washington ("Exclusive") -- The United States is using the threat of the Soviet SAM-5's in Syria to pressure Jordan into joining the peace process. This has been learned from authoritative sources. According to these sources, in its contacts with Jordan, Washington is emphasizing the danger the missiles present in deepening the Soviet penetration into the area as another reason to prod King Husayn.

DAVAR COMMENTARY VIEWS SOVIET MISSILES IN SYRIA

TA201026 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 20 Jan 83 p 7

[Commentary by Yehoshu'a Tadmor: "The Soviet Missiles Do Not Presage War"]

[Text] The reports shrieking over the Soviet missiles in Syria and the overt U.S. encouragement to Israel to attack them, with all the reasoning. We must not under any circumstances give way to hysteria that would permit the United States to use Israel as the Pentagon's club.

In the last war, we saw how the Americans behave as allies and it would be advisable to think 10 times before making a decision on this matter. In the end, there may be no alternative to the decision, but it must stem from Israeli considerations and only after Washington guarantees Israel an aerial umbrella. Without that umbrella, a confrontation in which the Soviets could well be direct parties must not be risked.

If the Soviet missiles really presaged new Soviet intervention in the area, belligerent intervention aimed at tipping the scales in the Israeli-Syrian conflict, it would be correct to take a different stand. But in all the open material published over the last few weeks in the West, and from other sources, there is no hint or sign of such a Soviet strategy. Those missiles, just as the previous Soviet missiles, are part of what is usually called "Brezhnev's policy." Anyone who tries to assign them the significance of a bellicose move does not know what he is saying and could jeopardize Israel. The latest move, it is true, was made in Andropov's time, but it is no different from Brezhnev's Middle East policy. That is, it does not require any drastic Israeli reaction. All the more so as long as the missiles do not cross a new hypothetical red line that must be determined rapidly.

Before making a local assessment of the situation, Soviet global policy must be clarified. From all the declarations and data about the "new" Soviet policy published since Andropov took power, it emerges that the Soviet Union is aiming at negotiations and broad arrangements [hesderim] with the United States and the West. Of course, there is always the suspicion that the Soviets are cheating and this is indeed what various U.S. experts claim. But U.S. and West European experts who cannot be suspected of being sympathetic toward Moscow are convinced that the Soviets are speaking the truth on this issue and they sincerely want negotiation and broad arrangements, but for their own reasons of course: the desire for a slowing of the arms race, renewed exchanges of goods, the purchase of new technologies, and so on.

If this is the general picture, then even if Moscow attempts to underline its interest in Syria and the Middle East, it is not warlike intervention that is the main reason for dispatching the missiles. The main reason is strengthening the hands of Syria, the PLO, and every element dear to the Soviet Union, with the intention of signaling to them that they should not be led astray by U.S.-Israeli peace.

What is most important is that this is a question of signals for negotiations, not a belligerent move. All Soviet policy in the area over the last few years has emphasized the need to speak about peace, not war -- of course, peace according to the Arabs' and Soviets' conditions, but peace nonetheless.

It is instructive to note that all the publications stress that Soviet technicians will accompany the missiles. This means scrupulous supervision by the Soviets, who want to prevent outbursts by lunatics and hotbeds, "Arabs," as they are called in Russian slang.

Moscow wants to talk about everything, both Europe and the Middle East. It would happily adopt a sort of agreement with the United States similar to that of 1977, which was sabotaged by Jerusalem because it withheld several interests vital to Jerusalem. Such an agreement, or a similar one -- even if the Americans add lines from the Reagan plan to it, with amendments aimed at Husayn and the PLO -- would not be bad for the Soviet Union. Even now, they would be prepared to adopt it.

This is the main point of the missiles signal: negotiations in which Moscow wants to incorporate both Syria and the PLO. They are threatening escalation and deadlocks if they are not incorporated.

The challenge is a dangerous one and must be dealt with both wisely and firmly, without risking war, which is necessary only as a last resort.

SHARON COMMENTS ON ARMS, AID TO ZAIRE

TA210633 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon says that supplying arms and training to the Zairian Army were not intended to push any other country out of Zaire. On his return to Israel last night, Sharon said that expanding cooperation and the aid to Zaire show that the IDF's activity last year in strengthening it was greatly appreciated. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, who went to Zaire, spoke to Sharon.

[Begin recording] [Tal] The defense minister made a second visit, this time an open one, to Zaire. On his return, he says he discovered that the development in the last year, since his last visit, was unusually big. A military delegation was active here, but the cooperation was not just in the field of security. The IDF officers who trained the presidential brigade in Zaire, Sharon says, did not act only as superior officers giving orders, but became part of the units. In addition to the training, Israel, together with the Zairian Defense Ministry, worked out a survey of Zaire's security needs, Sharon says, and an overall survey in all fields.

[Sharon] In light of this survey, a long-term plan was mapped out to aid Zaire's military forces by strengthening them. It should be understood that this takes time; to build a brigade takes up to 2 years; to build a division takes 3-4 years. Therefore, it is a long-term plan, and our action now will be conducted according to it. As I know from past experience, such an action has an impact not only on the military field; it will probably extend to other fields as well. In my opinion, this is only the beginning in a long road to improving relations, not just with Zaire, but with other African countries.

[Tal] Sharon says we did not come to Zaire to push out any other country. He points out Zaire's security problems: Vast areas, difficult to defend against hostile forces, surround this country. Concentrations of Russians, Cubans, and East Germans surround it and have actually taken over the neighboring countries. Israel, he said, will help Zaire solve its problems.

[Sharon] Israel has not assumed responsibility for Zaire's security. Israel has assumed responsibility for helping advance the Zairian Army and Zaire's defense system. We do not intervene in internal struggles in other countries. Our people are not involved and will not be involved. This is our government's policy in wars between other countries. In sum, the obligation we took upon ourselves is to train the army, parts of the army, and to organize it. But in no way will we intervene; there is no obligation that will bring any involvement in fighting, if it develops. I hope it does not develop. The fact that the Zairian forces will be stronger will in itself be a factor that will bring quiet on its border.

[Tal] Strengthening Zaire's forces, Sharon says, will serve as a deterrent. He reveals that in the past year, Zaire bought military equipment worth millions of dollars from Israel. Some of the arms were given to it and some were sold. As for selling booty to Zaire, Sharon says that over the years Israel captured booty and put it to IDF use after it was overhauled. When there is talk of giving away captured arms, it is actually IDF arms and not booty from one war or another, for instance, the war in Lebanon. [end recording]

Officials on Sharon Trip

TA201204 Tel Aviv YOMAN HASHAVU'A in Hebrew 21 Jan 83 p 11

[Report by Moshe Yahalom]

[Text] People close to the U.S. delegation have disclosed to officials in Jerusalem that Philip Habib expressed his amazement at the fact that Defense Minister Sharon, who headed the unofficial contacts between Israel and Lebanon that led to the political breakthrough, decided at a critical moment of the negotiations to go to Zaire.

The Israeli officials' answer was: Israel's position is set forth in the Sharon document, which was coordinated with Beirut, and Israel will not deviate from it. What tipped the scales in favor of Sharon's trip was President Mobutu's answer to the message of cancellation in which Mobutu wrote that he would be happy if the visit was not cancelled and held even with a delay of 24 hours.

"The political breakthrough in Africa is no less important than the agreement with Lebanon, which will apparently take a long time," officials in Jerusalem are saying. "And it is impossible to stop Israeli diplomacy as long as the talks with Lebanon continue."

Sharon is scheduled to hold an important meeting in Africa which could lead to paving the way for contacts for a renewal of relations with other African countries in the future.

HEBRON VILLAGE LEAGUE HEAD ARRESTED, RELEASED

TA201518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The head of the Hebron hills area village league, Muhammad an-Nasir, was arrested following an incident in which a youth from the village ('Ayn Kahil) was killed by shots fired by members of the area village leagues. The report on the arrest was kept secret, and only today did our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari learn about it.

The head of the area village league has meanwhile been released from detention, and it is not yet clear whether it was he who killed the youth.

Our correspondent adds that the military governor has recently warned the members of the area village leagues against making excessive use of the arms they received for self-protection.

EXPELLED HEBRON MAYOR REPORTEDLY WANTS TO RETURN

TA201210 Tel Aviv YOMAN HASHAVU'A in Hebrew 21 Jan 83 p 7

[Report by Roni Sheqed]

[Text] Fahd al-Qawasimi, the mayor of Hebron who was expelled after the attack on Bet Hadassah, wants to return to Judaea and Samaria.

In a conversation with two of his confidants in his Amman home a week ago, Al-Qawasimi asked the pair, who are known to have connections with administration staff, to present his request to return to Hebron to Israel.

Al-Qawasimi has recently been careful not to engage in political activity that would identify him with the PLO so Israel would have no excuse to turn down his request. Al-Qawasimi added that he had recently refused a proposal by King Husayn to act as minister for the "conquered lands."

Civilian administration staff promised the envoys to treat his request sympathetically on condition that Al-Qawasimi issue an announcement of his own that he does not support the PLO. Al-Qawasimi refused to do this and prevented his return to Hebron.

QIRYAT ARBA' CIRCLES WANT TO OUST HEBRON MAYOR

TA201232 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Qiryat Arba' circles are preparing a series of moves to bring about the replacement of acting Hebron Mayor Mustafa 'Abd an-Nabi an-Natshah. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari has learned that Qiryat Arba' inhabitants have scheduled a demonstration for Saturday night, either outside An-Natshah's home or near the municipality building. Our correspondent points out that a document recently formulated in Qiryat Arba' mentions An-Natshah among other dignitaries and institutions against whom action must be taken. These include Peace Now, journalists, and the U.S. Consulate.

BEGIN URGES LEVI TO MAINTAIN 'SETTLEMENT MOMENTUM'

TA191439 Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew 19 Jan 83 p 4

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has demanded in a telephone conversation with Housing Minister David Levi that the minister refrain from stopping the "settlement momentum."

Senior ministers had approached Begin seeking his intervention after the Housing Ministry warned those purchasing land in the West Bank that some of the contracters building there are not authorized.

REPORTAGE ON 20 JANUARY TABAH INCIDENT

Foreign Ministry Protest

TA201730 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1730 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] It was reported in Jerusalem, that the Foreign Ministry instructed the Israeli Embassy in Cairo to lodge a protest with the Egyptian Government over the violation of the peace agreement that occurred in Tabah today. Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry received Egyptian clarifications from Cairo that the entire affair was a mistake.

Egyptians Rebuilding Torn Fence

TA201609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman has said that the tearing down of the fence in Tabah by Egyptian workmen was an unintentional error, adding that the Egyptians have no intention of setting up cabins there. The spokesman for the Egyptian Foreign Ministry said that instructions have been issued to correct the mistake.

Our correspondent Eytan Rabin reports from a senior military source that the Egyptians who entered the demilitarized zone in Tabah were soldiers wearing policemen's uniforms. They introduced three platforms into the demilitarized zone, apparently intended to serve as the foundations for the cabins they had planned to build there. An Egyptian tractor carried out preparatory work for the construction of the cabins.

A few minutes ago, our correspondent reported that the Egyptians removed the tractors from the demilitarized zone and began reerecting the fence.

Incident Regarded as 'Local'

TA201456 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1444 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Government sources in Jerusalem this afternoon assessed that the incident in Tabah is a local incident, and not part of a policy. Our correspondent Moshe Hakohen reports that the clarifications on this matter are continuing now on the local level. In the afternoon, the Egyptians removed one of the two tractors they had brought to the area in the early morning. The remaining tractor is not carrying out any work at present.

Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i has said that the Egyptian action in Tabah is a blatant violation of the peace treaty. This is not the only violation to have occurred recently, he said, adding that since this is a violation involving an act committed we must not resign ourselves to it. Restraint, in view of such a blatant violation, will encourage additional violations, perhaps even more serious ones.

Further Details on Incident

TA201256 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1228 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Interview with correspondent Alan Ben-'Ami by unidentified announcer — live from the Jerusalem studio]

[Text] [Question] What do you know about the situation in Tabah, Alan?

[Answer] Well, it's still something of a mystery. The original story came from the Voice of Israel's reporter in Elat, Eytan Rabin. Unfortunately, he appears to be out on the story. I haven't been able to get a hold of him. What appears to have happened is this: that Egyptians have moved into a demilitarized area, of an area of no-man's land bordering on Tabah, the disputed area beside Elat, and set up or tried to set up some sort of building. Apparently they're still there. They're under armed guard. There aren't Egyptian soldiers there, under the agreement between the two countries; but there are what are called armed gendarmerie, or police. The situation appears to be that they are there now. The Israel representatives on the joint Israel-Egyptian Military Committee have been trying to sort the matter out. The Israel army spokesman's office says they're not quite sure what's happening there. They are looking into it. It's certainly a serious affair if it's true.

As I understand the situation down there, the disputed border area, Tabah, is about a 600-meter strip of beach, of course, just south of Elat. Israel says it should belong to her under the terms of the peace agreement. The Egyptians claim it is theirs. It's an issue which is supposed to be going through no further negotiation. It's been deadlocked in part because of the bad relations between Israel and Egypt in recent months. Beside this strip, you have an area of no-man's land, which I understood was manned by a unit of the Multinational Force set up to patrol the Sinai. Where they are, what they've done, does not appear in Eytan Rabin's story. We haven't been able to find out ourselves here in the short time since that story came in.

Fence Not Yet Rebuilt

TA210913 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] The Egyptians have not yet rebuilt the fence they destroyed yesterday in the no-man's land area, though they promised to do so. This was reported by our correspondent in Elat Eytan Rabin. The area is quiet now, after the Egyptians removed their two bulldozers yesterday.

Lost Israeli Youths Returned

TA210837 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0747 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Three Israeli youths who lost their way while traversing the Tabah wadi on Wednesday afternoon were returned unharmed yesterday by the Egyptians to Israel. Egyptian policemen detained the three Israelis when they were found on Egyptian territory. The youths were returned unharmed, as stated, and this occurred during the incident in the no-man's land in Tabah.

Following reports on a near exchange of blows between the Israeli and Egyptian liaison officers in the Tabah area, the head of the joint Israeli-Egyptian Military Committee Brigadier General Dov Si'on made it clear this morning that there was no such incident. On the contrary, Gen Si'on stresses, the Egyptian liaison officer tried to calm the situation and solve the problem.

MEXICAN AMBASSADOR'S HOME ATTACKED 19 JAN

TA191055 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1050 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] In Mexico City this morning, there was an attempt to attack the home of the Israeli Ambassador to Mexico Yisra'el Gur-Arye. Unidentified assailants fired bursts from automatic weapons from a moving car at the ambassador's home, but there were no casualties and no one was home at the time. The local police have begun investigating.

Official Reaction

TA191949 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem Avi Pazner released an announcement condemning the assassination attempt on the life of the Israeli Ambassador in Mexico Yisra'el Gur-Arye.

In the Israeli Embassy in Mexico, they still do not know for certain what were the intentions of the three unknown persons who tried yesterday to attack the home of the Israeli ambassador in Mexico City. A spokesman in the embassy told our correspondent Mikha'el Doron that there is no certainty that the three did try to attack the ambassador's house, and he denied reports which were attributed to the embassy spokesman that the three tried to break into Ambassador Yisra'el Gur-Ayre's house. The spokesman told our correspondent that last night at 2100, the local police guarding the embassy encountered three persons whose actions seemed suspect. The police chased them away. During their escape they tried to run over a policeman. The policemen opened fire on the three and they escaped in their car.

Mexico: Incident Not Attack

TA210825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Mexico's police chief has denied reports that the shooting incident outside the residence of Israel's ambassador to Mexico was an assassination attempt on the diplomat's life. The police chief said that investigation reveals that whoever caused the incident used an air rifle and only fired at a nearby lamp post.

OPPOSITION TO CHANGING RADIO NETWORKS REPORTED

TA200857 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Knesset Member Hayim Herzog of the Labor opposition has come out against the Israel Broadcasting Authority's decision to move the English and French language broadcasts from the fourth to the first network. In a speech to the Knesset, he pointed out that the fourth network has powerful transmitters which carry the broadcasts to all the neighboring Arab countries and even to Turkey and Iran while the first wavelength barely covers Israel itself, Jack Katzenell reports.

[Begin recording] [Katenell] MK Herzog told the house the English and French broadcasts are heard as far afield as Ankara and Tehran. They have built up a listenership of diplomats, foreign correspondents, UN forces, foreign clergy, and educated Arabs, many of them in the government of the Arab countries. If these broadcasts are taken off the fourth wavelength, Herzog warns, Israel will be giving up the ether to the competing English and French broadcasts of the Arab countries and they are all increasing their transmissions in these languages, not reducing them.

[Herzog] After all, we have a situation here in Israel today where Jordan broadcasts every night in English and French on television and we have no answer. The net result is that all the tourists and a great part of the English-speaking population in Israel listen to the Jordanian broadcasts and there is no answer on the part of Israel.

[Katzenell] As a former Israeli ambassador to the United Nations, Hayim Herzog is acutely conscious of the information battle which Israel is fighting. There is a national consensus, he told the house that Israel's information efforts are inadequate. But one successful element in this effort, he says, has been the English and French language broadcasts on Israel radio. Hayim Herzog does not accept the view that the listening audience in the neighboring countries is small and insignificant. He believe the numbers are there, but it was the quality of the audience that really counted.

[Herzog] We are achieving, we are getting to people who influence the media throughout the world and who have an influence, and we are getting to the policymakers.

[Katzenell] Replying to Hayim Herzog's motion, Deputy Minister of Education Miryam Glazer-Ta'asa said the English and French broadcasts constitute a break in the Arabic Language service which caused Arabic listeners to switch off. The other listeners whom Herzog had mentioned could pick up Israeli broadcasts on shortwave, she said. However, the Israeli Broadcasting Authority is reconsidering the decision and, therefore, Deputy Minister Glazer-Ta'asa proposed that the matter be transferred to committee. MK Herzog agreed. [end recording]

LANKIN REPORTEDLY NEW AMBASSADOR TO LONDON

TA191435 Jerusalem KOTERET RASHIT in Hebrew 19 Jan 83 p 15

[Report by Yisra'el Segel]

[Excerpt] Eliyahu Lankin, Israel's ambassador to South Africa, will be appointed to the post of ambassador in London, a position which has been vacant since the wounding of Shlomo Argov. The decision to appoint Lankin was made this week by a small circle in the top echelon of the Foreign Ministry, and with the full support of the foreign minister. The appointment was guarded as a state secret.

LIBYA

PAPER COMMENTS ON EGYPT'S ARMS ACQUISITIONS

PM201527 London AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR in English 14 Jan 83 p 4

[Unattributed article: "Egypt: Arming for What?"]

[Excerpts] Egypt's quiet arms build-up continues, yet with the country wedded to a humiliating relationship with both the United States and Israel, it is hard to see what the arms are for, at least in the context of Egypt's present policies. At the same time, Egyptian arms sales have grown to become the country's second largest export.

Last November, the first locally-assembled model of the Franco-German Alpha jet strike aircraft and jet trainer was delivered to the Egyptian Air Force. Egypt has 45 of the planes on order, all but eight of which are to be assembled from components supplied by the makers France's Dassault-Breguet and West Germany's Dornier. The planes will replace existing Czech-built jet trainers and will, thanks to their advanced equipment, prove to be a small, but valuable addition to Egypt's air power.

Egypt concluded a similar deal recently with China for the local assembly and part-manufacture of obsolete Chinese F-7 fighters, based on the Soviet MIG-21 already in Egyptian service. The above-mentioned deals, together with last year's billion dollar deal for the supply of twenty Dassault Mirage 2000 fighters, show that Mubarak's regime is continuing to pursue a certain diversification of arms supplies, although the bulk of these still of course come from the United States.

The U.S. arms connection cannot be under-valued, for the major proportion of Egypt's re-equipment programme consists of the purchase, either directly or on credit, of large quantities of U.S. arms, ranging from F-16 fighters, 40 of which are on order, to M-60 main battle tanks which are now replacing earlier Soviet models. At the same time, Egypt herself is building up her own arms industry, which now produces a range of items from training planes to anti-tank missiles, mines and tank and artillery ammunition.

A Major Exporter

The result of this, as was revealed recently by Defence Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, is that Egypt itself has become a major arms exporter, selling a billion dollars' worth of arms in the last financial year. But it is clear from Abu Ghazalah's statement that these exports have been used to finance Egypt's own arms purchases. Thus, Egypt's arms sales serve to permit a degree of self-financing within the Defence Ministry, which of course increases the military's political weight in the country.

Deputy Defence Minister Mustafa Sadiq recently affirmed that Egypt does not want to assemble weapons from kits, we want to produce them here'. But what are these weapons for and to whom has Egypt been selling arms? To answer the last question first, the major recipient of Egyptian weaponry has been Saddam Husayn's regime in Iraq. Surplus T-55 tanks and spare parts and ammunition for Soviet-supplied equipment which are now made in Egypt have been dispatched to Saddam's armies fighting the Iranians in the Gulf war. This is certainly not just in the interests of the Egyptian regime, but also those of the United States, whose support for Iraq has thus far been low key.

The question which naturally arises when considering Egypt's arms acquisitions and exports is how they relate to Egyptian foreign policy.

As far as arms sales are concerned the relationship is not difficult to understand, as the sales to Iraq show. But arms acquisitions are another matter, for if Egypt continues to observe its peace with Iraeli, what are these weapons for?

Targeting Libya

Although Husni Mubarak has allegedly made it clear to the Reagan administration that he is unwilling, unlike his predecessor, to consider an attack on the Libyan Jamahiriyah, the bulk of the Egyptian Army remains in the western desert, targeted on Libya. Mubarak's regime has resisted Libyan and other Arab calls for an abandonment of policies and reacted with extreme timidity to the invasion of Lebanon last year, for fear of endangering its newly achieved nominal sovereignty over Eastern Sinai.

Egypt's leaders seem to have been mesmerised by the potential of the country's armed forces, if supplied with new weapons, without formulating a foreign policy to match. Furthermore, increased dependence on U.S. arms supplies could limit Egyptian war options far into the future. Early hopes that Egypt would turn away from the As-Sadat path after his death were not realised. Some analysts predict that Egypt is now playing the 'long game', planning for far into the future.

If this is true -- and it is hard not to sceptical -- then Egypt would do well to give the rest of the Arab nation a little more tangible evidence of its alleged commitment to the Arab cause. One immediate way of doing this would be to repudiate Camp David and break diplomatic relations with Israel. Avoiding contact with the enemy is not enough, that contact should be broken.

AL-QADHDHAFI BEGINS VISIT TO ROMANIA

For reportage on the activities of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi during his visit to Romania, see the 21 January East Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

SUDAN

SUNA REPORTS NUMAYRI'S INTERVIEW WITH VOA

JN201227 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Washington, 20 Jan (SUNA) -- In a recent interview with the Voice of America, President Ja'far Numayri said that Sudan, Egypt, and the friendly states are working to convene an OAU meeting in any place outside Tripoli because Libya is unstable from the security viewpoint and its president is isolated from Africa and does not want OAU meetings to succeed. The president said that the Libyan president has only once attended an OAU meeting and then only for a few minutes when he was on an official visit to Uganda, adding that the African states have prevented Al-Qadhdhafi from leading Africa because of their political awareness and because of their desire to preserve African unity. The president expressed the hope that this meeting will be held in the near future.

President Numayri pointed out that the efforts by Sudan and other African states which are concerned about African unity will succeed, expressing hope that the meeting will shortly take place outside Tripoli because this will promote the cause of the Africans and the Third World. The failure of the OAU will lead to the failure of other Third World organizations, the president said.

Answering a question on Sudanese-Libyan relations, the president said that Sudan's relations with Al-Qadhdhafi, and not with the Libyan people, are extremely bad. I cannot say that there is any hope of restoring relations with him at this difficult stage because we believe that he is a traitor to the causes of Palestine and Africa and the cause of peace, the president said.

On Sudan's relations with the United States, Numayri said that they are good and improving. All the Sudanese and U.S. leaders are aware of this. This is because we work for peace be it in the Middle East, Africa, or the entire world. On issues where stress is laid on peace and stability in the world, the Sudanese and U.S. views are identical, the president said.

The president said that development projects in Sudan are not only for the Sudanese people but for people in the Middle East and Africa, adding that despite difficulties, Sudan is helping many African and Middle Eastern states with food assistance. The president also spoke about Sudan's social development, its national unity, and the services rendered to the people in the various provinces in terms of education, health, and other services despite Sudan's tremendous geographical area.

On oil exploration in Sudan, Numayri said that Sudan's oil production is feasible commercially and that the (Chevron) company is working with the Sudanese companies to build a pipeline that will carry the production of the various wells to the seaport in order to be exported. Sudan, he said, will benefit from its oil in terms of agriculture because Sudan is an agricultural country. He said that the (Chevron) company is extremely efficient and has spent a large amount of money. It was able to locate places where oil was to be found and to find oil in a number of wells, the president said.

TUNISIA

BEIRUT RADIO REPORTS BOURGUIBA MESSAGE TO REAGAN

NC201755 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Diplomatic sources disclosed today that Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba yesterday sent a message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan on the situation in Lebanon, urging him to use utmost possible pressure on Israel to withdraw its forces from Lebanon. The sources explained that President Bourguiba's message was one of the results of the visit which Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi paid to Lebanon and the talks which the Lebanese Parliamentary delegations held in the Arab states, including Tunisia.

The sources added that the purpose of sending the Lebanese delegations to the Arab states is to tighten the noose on Israel to withdraw its forces from the Lebanese territory by asking the officials in the Arab states which are friendly with Western and Eastern states to exploit these friendships to bring pressure to bear on Israel and thus help the Lebanese position in the current negotiations.

KENYA

SWAPO LEADER SAYS CROCKER PROGRESS CLAIMS FALSE

AB201720 Paris AFP in English 1600 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Nairobi, Jan 20 (AFP) -- The United States is helping South Africa strengthen its military occupation of the territory, Namibian guerrilla leader Sam Nujoma charged here today.

Mr Nujoma, president of SWAPO, spoke to reporters in the Kenyan capital, where he is making an overnight stop on his way to Beijing.

He is to meet Chinese leaders for talks that may cover the supply of weapons and training to his insurgent forces, according to diplomatic sources in the Chinese capital.

The SWAPO leader said Washington had "created a stumbling block" by insisting along with Pretoria that progress towards Namibia's independence can only come in parallel with the removal of some 30,000 Cuban troops from next-door Angola.

"The Reagan administration is undermining the process of decolonization in Namibia by introducing East-West conflict," Mr Nujoma said. "Namibia is a small country...not in any way able to threaten U.S. interest. Why should the United States hold our independence to ransom?"

He said that if Washington wanted Cuban troops out of Angola, SWAPO had no objection to its discussing the issue directly with Angola and Cuba, "which is just 90 miles away" from the U.S. mainland.

But the questions of Cuban troops and Namibian independence could not be linked, he said. Such linkage was "an attempt to allow Pretoria to find loopholes (in the U.N. plan for a cease-fire and elections in Namibia) and impose a neocolonial solution."

This, the SWAPO president said, would likely be along the lines of the South African homelands such as Transkei and Bophuthatswana, declared independent by Pretoria but unrecognized by the rest of the world.

The white-minority South African Government was meantime "entrenching and building up its forces" in Namibia.

Recent claims by U.S. officials, particularly Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker, of progress in the five-year-old negotiations over Namibia were false and part of a "strategy to mislead world opinion," the Namibian guerrilla leader said.

Commenting on the resumption by South Africa of direct rule in Namibia yesterday, Mr Nujoma asserted that military pressure by SWAPO had forced the collapse of "colonial institutions" such as the National Assembly and Council of Ministers set up by Pretoria in Windhoek over the past four years.

But South Africa was "scheming out new schemes to enable reactionary forces to establish an interim government," he said.

On the trip to China, his first since 1978, Mr Nujoma said he expected it would "consolidate the friendship between China and the people of Namibia led by SWAPO."

ZAIRE

CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON SHARON VISIT 20 JAN

Cooperation Accords Signed

AB201305 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon this morning said goodbye to the MPR [Popular Movement of the Revolution] founding chairman and president of the republic.

Earlier, leader Mobutu Sese Seko and the Israeli minister had held lengthy discussions at Camp Tshatshi and Mont Ngaliema. The discussions resulted in the signing of new military cooperation agreements. Vice Admiral Lompode Wa Botende, the secretary of state for defense and territorial security, signed for Zaire while Defense Minister Sharon signed for his country. Nothing has been said yet on these agreements, but in the light of the declarations made on Tuesday by the MPR founding chairman and president of the republic on board the MS Kamanyola, one can affirm without fear of contradiction that these agreements concern specifically the reorganization of the Zairian Armed Forces and the Kamanyola division, as well as training in the fields of artillery and construction.

We will know more about this after the interview to be granted by Israeli Defense Minister Sharon just before his departure from Kinshasa for home.

More on Defense Agreement

TA201948 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Telephone report by defense affairs correspondent Dan Scemama from Kinshasa -- live or recorded]

[Text] The agreement on defense cooperation, on a multiannual basis, between Israel and Zaire was signed this morning in the Presidential Palace in Kinshasa. Upon signing the agreement, Israel has become Zaire's number one adviser on security affairs. The agreement reached today is based on a strategic survey composed by the defense minister's national security adviser, Major General Avraham Tamir. Israel will thus also provide counsel on the ways to strengthen and set up units trained by soldiers from other countries such as the PRC, Belgium, and France.

According to the agreement, Israel will recruit, equip, and retrain the Kamanyola Division in the Shaba Province in the southeastern part of Zaire. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] delegation to Zaire will expand, and Israel will also supply Zaire with communications equipment, cannons, mortars, and possibly even patrol boats for the Zairian Army.

As part of the agreement, several battalions will also be set up. Some of the equipment the IDF will supply will be booty, some of it IDF surplus and in part material produced by the Israeli defense industries. Part of these arms will be given as a gift, and another part of it will be sold to Zaire.

The signing ceremony was preceded by a 2 and 1/2 hour conversation between President Mobutu and Minister Ari'el Sharon. In the course of the meeting, the issue of the establishment of settlements in the style of the Nahal footholds was also mentioned, planned for Zaire's long southeastern border. That is all from Dan Scemama.

Talks in Kinshasa 20 Jan

TA201750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1725 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Today Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko signed a multiannual agreement for Israeli security aid to Zaire. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports from Kinshasa that as a result of this agreement, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] delegation to Zaire would be expanded:

[Begin Tal recording] The IDF delegation, which will now be expanded as a result of the agreement that has been signed, will deal with widescale activity in the field of organization, equipment and training of the Zairian Army. Zaire wants Israel to actually become its main prop and help build its Armed Forces. The heads of the Zairian defense establishment demand equipment for nearly all of their Army's branches. The agreement signed today is the result of many months of negotiating, and concludes 4 days of heavily scheduled, intensive talks during which the Zairian secretary of defense [title as heard] and President Mobutu tried to convince Minister Sharon that their country needs a lot of equipment and advanced equipment that would allow it to confront difficult security problems in a vast and sensitive area such as Shaba. Zaire is interested in procuring ships, radar systems, helicopters, cannons, advanced communication apparatuses, and security fences. It wants trucks, jeeps, light arms, and mortars, demanding that Israel help it rehabilitate and expand its Air Force.

President Mobutu and Minister Sharon agreed today on some of these subjects. Israel will reorganize the Kamanyola Division in the Shaba Province and will establish another force like the Presidential Division which is already being trained by Israeli officers.

One of the main problems of the agreement is the question of financing. Israel will insist that the deals will be fully paid for, preferably in cash.

Zaire is also interested in tanks and armored personnel carriers, President Mobutu said, and such equipment costs a lot.

The significance of the agreement signed today is that Israel is becoming the number one prop for the Zairian Army, with everything that this entails. The signing ceremony was public and was, incidentally, signed between Sharon and the Zairian defense secretary. That is all by Shmu'el Tal in Zaire. [end recording]

Sharon Scheduled for Secret Talks

AB201515 Paris AFP in English 1505 GMT 20 Jan 83

[By Jean-Eudes Barbier]

[Text] Kinshasa, Jan. 20 (AFP) -- Secret talks with government representatives from Tanzania, Kenya, Chad, and the Central African Republic were on the schedule of Israeli Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon's current visit to Zaire, reliable sources said here today. Mr Sharon's aides refused to confirm or deny the reports, merely saying that in Israel's view Zaire is "an open door to Africa." But one Israeli source did not rule out other countries following Kinshasa's example and renewing diplomatic relations with Israel in 1983. However the source firmly denied reports circulating here that Israel would be prepared to give military support through Zaire to the Chadian Government of Hissein Habre, who is facing a threat from a rival regime set up in northern Chad by Libya.

It is understood here that the planned talks with envoys from other countries were the reason for General Sharon's arrival in Zaire last Monday being postponed for only 24 hours instead of "indefinitely" as originally announced because of Israel's negotiations with Lebanon.

The crucial question of Israel's diplomatic rejection by Africa -- apart from Zaire it has formal relations only with Malawi and South Africa -- was undoubtedly raised in General Sharon's talks on Tuesday with Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko. Field Marshal Mobutu is seen as an important defender of Israel's position, and he clearly spelled out in an interview with the Israeli press that differences in viewpoint between Kinshasa and Tel Aviv on the Middle East situation should only affect bilateral cooperation if events take a serious turn for the worse.

While reaffirming that the Palestine Liberation Organization was the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, Field Marshal Mobutu said that it was not up to him to impose this view on the Israelis. Both Zaire and Israel are prepared to ignore their serious differences of opinion on this question. "Friendship between our two countries is friendship between two sovereign states," President Mobutu said, while General Sharon told the Zaire daily ELIMA that bilateral relations were developing "in a harmonious manner to the benefit of both countries."

Authoritative sources here said that Mr Sharon and his Zaire counterpart, Vice Admiral Lompode Wa Botende, had signed a military cooperation agreement today, following a second long discussion between the Israeli minister and President Mobutu. No official details were released but reliable sources said the agreement concerned a five-year plan to reform the Kamanyola Division based on Shaba Province in southeast Zaire.

Yesterday General Sharon made a lightning visit to Shaba to discuss how to provide Israeli military aid with the commander of the division, which protects Zaire's copper, cobalt and zinc mines, the main source of the Mobutu regime's revenue. The sources said Israel would provide military instructors and undertake the modernisation of the division's artillery and communications units.

Since last year, when Zaire made its decision to renew diplomatic relations with Israel to the anger of Arab and some African states, the Israelis have been training President Mobutu's personal guard. France, Belgium and China are also concerned with modernising Zaire's Armed Forces.

General Sharon was expected to leave Kinshasa for Israel later today.

Sharon Departs

AB201859 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Excerpt] After 4 days of fruitful contacts, Ari'el Sharon took leave of Marshal Mobutu. At 1330 hours today he left Zaire sure of strengthening the ties between Zaire and Israel.

BENIN

300-MEMBER SOVIET YOUTH DELEGATION ARRIVES

AB202009 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Excerpt] A 300-member Soviet Youth Delegation arrived in Cotonou this morning on a visit to the Beninese Youth. A welcoming ceremony was held this afternoon at the People's Hall in Cotonou for the members of the Soviet delegation who arrived on board a Soviet Nazy Boat. Several members of the Central Committee of the Beninese People's Revolution and of the Revolutionary Youth Movement in Atlantique Province were present at the ceremony along with the Soviet Ambassador to the People's Republic of Benin.

IVORY COAST

PARTY STATEMENT ON MOVING NATIONAL CAPITAL

AB202217 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Statement issued by the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally Executive Committee after a meeting held in Abidjan on 20 January -- read by Executive Committee member and Minister of Health Lazeni Coulibaly]

[Text] The problem of transferring the country's political capital is not a new issue. Grassroot militants, political authorities at all levels, economists, town-planners and all sorts of organizations have for many years been expressing their unambiguous and motivated wish for the political capital to be transferred to Yamoussoukro. During the latest congress -- the seventh congress - of our great party, the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally [PDCI-RDA], a motion to that effect was prepared by many delegates, but was not submitted to the congress out of respect for discipline within the party. The president of the party himself received several motions, but remained greatly reserved on the matter.

As his immediate aids, we the members of the Executive Committee did not want to violate the president's reservations or to disregard the party leader's deliberate silence on the issue. In fact, in our position as aides to the president, any initiative from us would certainly have been misinterpreted by ill-minded people as a deliberate, disguised attempt by the president to impose his hometown as the Ivory Coast's capital.

The mayor of Abidjan also conveyed to the head of state this desire of a large number of militants and, as he put it himself, he thought he did not have to await the president's response. Though in his capacity as secretary general of a party section -- the Abidjan Plateau section -- and as a member of the party Steering Committee he should have been more discrete in compliance with the democractic discipline. He must, however, be congratulated on his boldness, thanks to which the problem has been made public within the normal structure of the party.

We have already questioned the secretaries general of the party sections on the opinion of the militants. All members of the Executive Committee are happy to acknowledge that the work of the party chairman is favorably acknowledged by a great number of the people. The transfer of the capital will not only be a solution to economic and sociological problems, but it will also be the demonstration of the country's gratitude to the father of the nation, His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

NIGERIA

PRESS ON U.S. AFRICA POSITION, ILLEGAL ALIENS

AB201100 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Jan 83

[From the Press Review]

[Excerpt] The NEW NIGERIAN is convinced that from the look of things the Reagan administration is determined to maintain its anti-African attitude on vital issues affecting the continent. The paper recalls Chester Crocker's defense of Washington's stand on the question of Namibia's independence. Mr Crocker, who is the U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, is further quoted as saying that if Africa asked the Americans to take their marbles and go home, they would do so. The paper reminds him and his government that the people of Namibia cannot be suppressed forever, even with full American support for racist South Africa.

Two papers, the DAILY TIMES and the PUNCH, welcome the recent directive by the Federal Government ordering illegal aliens to leave the country within 2 weeks. According to the TIMES, most of the aliens see the oil-rich Nigeria as a country whose land is flowing with milk and honey, hence misusing the ECOWAS protocol of free movement. The paper appeals to the Ministry of Internal Affairs to ensure that any company or organization found employing illegal aliens after the deadline is closed down immediately. The TIMES also wants any individual employing or harboring illegal aliens sent to jail without any option of fine.

The PUNCH, while applauding the Federal Government for the decision, wonders why it took the government such a long time to take action. However, the PUNCH hopes that after the 2-week period of grace has elapsed, the ultimatum will be vigorously enforced.

LAGOS COMMENTARY APPLAUDS DEPORTATION ORDER

AB200758 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] A country is sovereign because it can take independent decisions in consonance with its declared national objectives. Also in interstate relations, national interest becomes the key concept of a country's foreign policy. It is concerned with the nation's attempt to achieve, protect, and maintain the national interest and values within an international environment made up [of] competing states. And when such interests are being threatened or encroached upon, swift measures are taken to forestall or ward off such threats. So the recent order on aliens staying or working illegally in the country to leave within 2 weeks can be seen as normal in international relations.

The action of the Federal Government could not have been taken at a better time. It will be recalled that for some time now, Nigeria has been a magnet to immigrants from foreign and neighboring countries. And this is especially so of ECOWAS countries. Perhaps the ostensible reason for this is the ECOWAS free movement protocol which, however, permitted a 90-day stay and no freedom to work. Unfortunately, this right has been abused. It had been estimated that over 2 million of such illegal immigrants currently stay in this country. Several thousand Chadians, whose country is not in ECOWAS, live in Nigeria since the outbreak of the civil war in Chad. A similar number of immigrants come from Niger and Cameroon.

The reasons for such a large number of immigrants into the country are not farfetched. Firstly, in the heyday of the Nigerian economy, the country's oil wealth became an attraction to other neighboring countries. The citizens of these countries believed that once in Nigeria, their problems of unemployment and poverty would be solved. In Nigeria they did find it comfortable to stay. Nigerians, who are by nature hospitable people, encouraged them to stay by offering them employment. But the fact is that these illegal immigrants were able to find themselves in this country because of our apparently open and expansive borders. In addition, some foreigners have gate-crashed by making false declarations.

It should be noted that several reasons have now made it necessary, more than ever before, for the new deportation measure. To start with, some of these aliens have constituted themselves into social liabilities to the country. There is no gainsaying that the incidence of robbery and other social vices have increased with the influx of illegal aliens. Many have been arraigned in the courts for perpetrating all kinds of economic crimes like trafficking in the Nigerian currency. They have also been involved in religious riots which they masterminded.

At a time when the nation is embarking on the ethical revolution, we cannot afford to watch these illegal aliens pollute our much cherished traditional values. All over the place there are brothels patronized by them. In fact, the security of the nation is no doubt threatned with such unregistered aliens in our midst. We must know who are Nigerians and who are not. But the question is how possible is it now to identify the illegal aliens in our midst. It does not seem an easy task. In the first place there are some aliens who speak some of the Nigerian languages. Also there are hail and hearty beggars dotted all over the cities constituting themselves into a menace rather than human beings deserving help.

The only point that we have to emphasize is that the deportation order must be executed in an orderly manner. We cannot recall any time in the history of this country when we physically chased out foreigners. Others had done it to us, and we had risen above such rash decisions. Therefore, our people must remain calm and allow the government to carry our the deportation order in conformity with the requirements of international law.

EMBASSIES SEEKING GUIDANCE ON DEPORTATION

AB201131 Lagos NAN in English 1103 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Lagos, Jan 20 (NAN) -- The embassies of some of the countries affected by the recent Federal Government quit order on illegal aliens have been making contacts with their home governments for necessary directives, 48 hours after the order was issued.

A number of the embassies claimed that they had not received any official briefing from the Nigerian Government. The embassies told correspondents of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that they learned of the order through the mass media. However, there was a general consensus among the various embassies that the order did not contradict any international law.

NAN reported the presence of large numbers of immigrants who had come to some of the embassies to obtain travelling documents or update their identity cards.

At the Chadian Embassy, a top official told NAN that the decision of the Federal Government would enable the estimated 15,000 Chadian nationals in Nigeria to go back and join in national reconstruction after 17 years of civil war.

At the Ghana High Commission, the information counsellor, George Asiedu-Nfow, told NAN that he expected the country's nationals living in Nigeria illegally to obey the Federal Government directive and go home.

A Ghanaian who gave his name as Benjamin Bonsu said that the order came to him as a shock because the Federal Government did not give enough time for those affected to prepare for their homeward journey.

The general secretary of the Nigerian Labor Congress, Dr Lasisi Osunde, said that the Federal Government should have discussed the issue with the various governments concerned to avoid possible repercussion on Nigerians residing in other parts of the ECOWAS subregion. He, however, said that the situation arose because the Federal Government had not taken enough measures to guard the country's border posts.

MINISTER, PRC ENVOY DISCUSS CULTURAL COOPERATION

AB200707 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Nigeria and China are to cooperate in cultural affairs. The minister of social development, youth, and culture, Chief Adebisi Ogendengbe, made the remark in Lagos when the Chinese ambassador to Nigeria, Lei Yang, paid him a courtesy call in his office. The two officials exchanged ideas on the proposed cultural agreement between the two countries. The minister explained that in spite of all constraints his ministry will do everything possible to promote cultural relations with China and other nations of the world.

UPPER VOLTA

CABINET DISCUSSES OIL CAPITAL, 1983 BUDGET

AB202142 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, the chairman of the People's Salvation Council, CSP, and head of state presided over the deliberations of the weekly Cabinet meeting today. This afternoon, Adama Fofana, the minister of information, posts, and telecommunications gave an account of this meeting.

[Question by unidentified journalist] Mr Minister, we know that the weekly Cabinet meeting was held today, 20 January, presided over by head of state Maj Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo. As the government's spokesman could you give us an account of the deliberations of this meeting?

[Answer] The meeting was indeed held today, starting at 0900, and was presided over by head of state Maj Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo. Today's Cabinet meeting was attended by Captain Thomas Sankara, the prime minister.

[Question] Mr Minister, the issue of the Voltarization of the capital of oil companies was discussed. What are the main reasons for this decision?

[Answer] It was simply a reminder. Indeed, the Cabinet, after recalling the measures contained in ordinance No 75049 Pres of 30 October 1975, adopted a resolution to effectively implement its provisions. This means that the minimum level of state participation in the capital of the oil companies can in no way be less than 51 percent as is already being practiced in other sectors that are considered vital and priority areas by the Upper Voltan state. Therefore, it is a reminder and the state is committed to the effective implementation of the measures stipulated in the previous provisions just referred to.

[Question] Mr Minister, one of the hectic moments of this Cabinet meeting was the examination of the state budget for the 1983 fiscal year. Could you give us some details on this?

[Answer] The Cabinet was presented with the documents of the final state budget for the 1983 fiscal year. This budget is evaluated in revenue and expenditure at a sum of 57.9 billion CFA francs.

ANGOLA

23 DISSIDENTS KILLED IN HUAMBO PROVINCE ATTACK

MB201231 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Recently the puppet armed bands in the service of international imperialism and lackeys of South Africa's racist regime launched an attack against the command post of the People's Defense Organization [ODP] battalion in the (Tokokongo) commune, [word indistinct] (Chikala-Choluanga), Huambo Province. According to sources close to the command 23 puppets, including a captain by the name of (Cachindonga), who led them, were killed. While withdrawing the puppets plundered basic commodities. Three ODP fighters were killed and two were wounded.

UNITA CLAIMS DESTRUCTION OF DAM NEAR HUAMBO

AB201450 Paris AFP in French 1400 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Paris, 20 Jan (AFP) -- UNITA, an armed Angolan opposition movement, said in Paris on Thursday that it had "completely destroyed" an important hydroelectric dam and captured two Portuguese technicians last Tuesday. In a communique published in Paris, Jonas Savimbi's movement says that the dam destroyed is the Alto-Catumbela-Lumaun Dam, the second largest in Angola, which "used to supply electric power for the city of Huambo" in central Angola and neighboring areas.

UNITA also says it captured Augusto Ribeiro and Jose Ladeira, two Portuguese technicians in charge of the maintenance of the dam. According to the communique, 43 government soldiers and 12 Cubans were killed during the attack which "is part of the operation to surround Huambo."

MOZAMBIQUE

PUBLIC EXECUTION OF 'BANDITS' IN MAGUDE REPORTED

MB210735 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1100 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Report on a public meeting addressed by Vice Minister of Defense Sebastiao Mabote on 18 January at Magude in Maputo Province]

[Text] Three armed bandits who were captured by our forces in the Magude Region, Maputo Province, were put on trial before the people in that region, and the population demanded their execution before them. The event took place Tuesday afternoon during a meeting addressed by Sebastiao Marcos Mabote, vice minister of national defense and chief of General Staff of the Mozambique Armed Forces, during which the three criminals were presented.

According to their own public confession, the bandits murdered a number of civilians, burned buses, shops and consumer cooperatives, and an incalculable amount of goods belonging to the population. They reconnoitered and destroyed the economic infrastructure, namely bridges and railway lines, and one of them was captured while he was reconnoitering the Mazimchopes Bridge on the railway line which links our country to Zimbabwe.

In Magude more than 2,000 people witnessed the moment when the firing squad, formed by soldiers guarding the place where the meeting took place, implemented the population's undelayable desire.

The hatred and the popular anger against the crimes committed by the criminals, who confessed South Africa's complicity in the financing and logistic support given to the armed bandits, was unequivocally evident during the popular meeting addressed by Sebastiao Mabote, chief of General Staff of the Mozambican Armed Forces.

The popular meeting started when the 2,000 people present began singing in an expression of their hatred against the armed bandits and their agents. Then Sebastiao Mabote spoke to the population giving a brief historic account of the heroic behavior of the people of the region in their resistance against Portuguese colonial penetration. In a reference to the wars of resistance of the Mozambican people, he said that right from (Magule) to the Maguiguane, Gungunhana, (Xipenanhane), Mapulanguene, and other campaigns, the objective had always been for the people to decide their own future without any sort of tutelage. Sebastiao Mabote said later on that when the Mozambique Liberation Front pursued this war there were attempts to darken it through infiltration of agents, as is the case today with the armed bandits in the service of the South African regime. Referring to the nature of the armed bandits, the chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces said:

[Mabote recording in Shangan, fading into Portuguese translation] First of all it is necessary to know who are the armed bandits. Otherwise it will not be possible to fight and destroy them. In order to know about the armed bandits, it is necessary to know their origin, what they want, and what their actions are, their objective. If you cannot define these things, you may become armed bandits yourselves. You may be seduced and unconsciously become [words indistinct] to kill your brother, your mother and in the end live like a primitive in the bush and away from home. It is better to understand it because if you do not know who the armed bandits are, it is not possible to fight against them to defend your property, your children, wives, parents and brothers.

Meanwhile, a number of people spoke at the microphones to denounce the criminal activities of the armed bandits. (Moises Muianga), one of those who spoke, said that they cut women's breasts, cut off ears, steal cattle, and steal our property. They destroy cooperatives, burn shops and buses. (Jaime Machoi), another speaker, said that the aim of the armed bandits was to comply with orders given by their bosses thus destabilizing our economy, creating discontent among the people and impeding our country's development. He added that the armed bandits do not want communal villages, because the people in them live in an organized way. They do not want consumer cooperatives because they are shops we have built. It was not the party that has given us the money to build. It was ourselves. When the armed bandits arrive at your houses and find cattle that you have bought with your own money, they say they are hungry and then ask what are they going to eat. Then you will be forced to give them an animal, and if you give them a thin one they refuse and demand a fat one. You and all your family are forced to work for them. You are forced to go and look for pots because they surround your house and you cannot run away. The armed bandits show up at any time. After they have chosen the fattest animal, they do not bother if the cow is about to give birth. If it is an ox they do not bother if it is good to pull the plow. They kill the cow and devour it. They do not even skin it. They eat it like savages.

(Jaime Machoi) added that the armed bandits plunder shops and then sell rice at 2 meticais, when it costs 14 meticais, so that later on the population will feel bitter against the official prices. Those who have bought such rice at the lowest price have ceased to cooperate with the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FPLM] because, as (Jaime Machoi) ironically stated, they have become good friends of the armed bandits. The bandits destroy the irrigation pumps, and impede the population being supplied.

[Recorded passage in Shangan in which (Jaime Machoi) sings a song which includes the name "Botha"; Mabote presents the three armed bandits, one of the prisoners is heard giving his name]

[Announcer translates] My name is Jordao Durao.

I am 22 years old and I was born in Maputo. When they recruited us they took us to the base and trained us for a certain period. They gave us weapons. Later on we went back to Maputo. We arrived at Ampulanguene base. We went to [word indistinct] and then we moved to (Motaze).

Later they told us that they wanted to send somebody to spy, to see if there were any Frelimo troops. They chose me and advised me not to carry a weapon, otherwise they would find out that I am a Matsanga [National Resistance Movement member]. I walked on. On my way I found a bottle and then I began to look for water because I was thirsty. It was then when I saw a soldier on the bridge. He, however, did not ask me anything. Later I saw another soldier who asked for my documents, and he asked where I was going. I told him I was going to Chiqualaquala. He asked my parents' names and my surname.

I burned a shop, three buses and four houses. Regarding the population, I killed a member of the Militia, two party members and two other people. Altogether I killed five people. Later on we went to a place the name of which I have forgotten. When we arrived there we burned houses, stole clothing, a radio and a tape recorder. We stole a blanket and two pairs of trousers.

The second armed bandit was then presented. He is (Job Gabriel Mutunde), born in Chiqualaquala and 18 years old.

[(Job Gabriel Mutunde) recorded, in Shangaan, fading into Portuguese translation] I was recruited by the Matsangas and then we went to burn three buses on the road going to Maputo. On our way back we went to the 7th of April communal village where we burned three houses and shop. Then we went to Inhambane where we killed three people, including a member of the militia. We stole clothes from the population. We continued walking, and the one who led us was this one. Then we went back to (Nalave) where he had recruited us. He joined another group and I remained with the same people.

We burned houses, stole clothes from the population, and we burned a shop in [word indistinct]. Actually it was two shops. We went back to the communal villages, and there we burned another shop. We arrived at a house and asked for food. They told us they did not have food. We then went to (Mutar) with another group. Later, another group came and went to Magude.

After the three armed bandits had been presented to the people, Lieutenant General Sebastiao Mabote spoke to the people and asked them what they wanted to do with the criminals. The people called for the death of the armed bandits who stood before them.

[Begin recording; Mabote speaking in Portuguese] Now say what are we going to do with these people?

[Crowd] Kill.

[Mabote] What?

[Crowd] Kill.

[Mabote] What?

[Crowd] Kill.

[Crowd indistinct voices] [end recording]

This was the recording of the population's answer to Sebastiao Mabote's question, a firm and determined answer clearly showing the hatred that our people feel toward the armed bandits. Sebastiao Mabote explained that the task of executing the bandits was the responsibility of the poeple's armed wing. The people, however, demanded immediate execution of the bandits before them. The chief of staff ordered an FPLM section to execute the bandits.

[Drums]

[Begin recording, with crowd noise] [Unidentified voice] Hey, you get ready. Pay attention to the bandits. Fire [sound of machinegun fire; crowd screams] [end recording].

After the sentence that the people had demanded was carried out, the population showed their joy over the fact that their appeal had been fulfilled by FPLM, and showed their determination to pursue the struggle agaist the armed bandits until the bandits are totally eliminated. This is the end awaiting the armed bandits; this was what everybody said as they sang and danced. [recording of crowd singing]

SOUTH AFRICA

COMMENTARY ON CHANGE OF RULE IN NAMIBIA

MB201037 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Station commentary: "A Holding Action in South-West Africa"]

[Text] In the wake of Mr Dirk Mudge's resignation, the administrator-general of South-West Africa has, in effect, reimposed direct South African rule in the territory. He has described it as an interim arrangement and has emphasized the government's commitment to the view that the people of South-West Africa should decide their own future. It is a holding action.

What it signifies most clearly is that a decisive point has been reached in developments concerning the constitutional future of South-West Afirca. At this point it would be unwise to initiate any important changes that might adversely affect the outcome of those developments. By the same token,and in view of the South African commitment to self-determination, the arrangement cannot be maintained indefinitely. Failing a favorable outcome in the foreseeable future, action to break the logjam in the territory's politics will become imperative.

For the moment, however, events must be allowed to run their course. In particular, the American initiative to have the 30,000 Cuban troops in Angola removed from that country must be given a reasonable chance to succeed. The destabilizing presence of the Cubans remains the one real obstacle to a satisfactory settlement for South-West Africa. In recognition of that, Dr Chester Crocker and his deputies are engaged in extensive negotiations that have taken them to Luanda itself, to the capitals of most other southern Afircan countres and, not least, to Moscow. There had been leaked reports from Washington of pressure being applied and promises made, and from the Angolan capital has come news of a purge of hard-line Soviet supporters in the ruling MPLA.

These are definite signs of progress, but the omens portending failure are no less unmistakable. From Moscow and Havana have come categorical statements that the Cuban soliders are staying put. Southern Africa leaders, judging by the growing contrast between their private actions and public declarations, are ready to jump either way, and the MPLA regime itself not only remains firmly Marxist by conviction, but there were doubts about its ability -- notwithstanding its desperate economic and military situation -- to get rid of Cubans against the wishes of the Kremlin.

At this moment the opposing forces are delicately poised, and nobody knows which will prove the superior. But it behooves South Africa not to act in any manner that might cause the balance to be tilted the wrong way. The holding action must be maintained, and for the people of South-West Africa, there is an opportunity now to sort out their patchwork politics. Mr Mudge's resignation has had the effect of formally distancing all political parties from South Africa, and in that situation that more than 40 such parties in the territory should be able to reach greater agreement on the important issues that bind rather than the emotional quarrels that have, up to now, divided them.

Pretoria's holding action provides the breathing space for movements, both inside and outside South-West Africa. The course of the overall constitutional movement that must follow the interim period will depend on how it was used.

SETTLEMENT OF BLACKS BILL TO BE 'SCRAPPED'

MB201733 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 19 Jan 83 p 4

[Editorial]

[Excerpts] It may just be speculation but the news that the extremely controversial orderly movement and settlement of Black persons bill is heading for the scrap heap is very heartening.

There has been no official confirmation thus far, but it is reported that members of the parliamentary select committee on the Constitution have been told that they will not be dealing with the bill this year, and they expect it to be scrapped completely.

The bill was one of the trilogy of the so-called "Koornhof Bills" which were intended to improve the lot of Blacks in the urban areas. When the orderly movement bill was studied, however, it proved to be so controversial that it was attacked from various sectors.

The orderly movement bill has been described in fact as placing Blacks under a virtual state of martial law in attempting to control the influx into urban areas.

It is understood that instead of going ahead with the bill the government is not contemplating amendments to existing legislation that would toughen up influx laws. The amendments could include far heavier penalties for offences under the influx control provisions and reversal of decision of the courts allowing wives and dependants of people with Section 10 qualifications to remain in the urban areas

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA COMMENTS ON ECONOMY AT PRESS CONFERENCE

MB201730 Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 14 Jan 83 p 1

[Excerpts] Zambians have no choice but to lower their standard of living because the economic crunch has come, President Kaunda said yesterday.

For some time now Zambians had continued to live as if times were normal whereas they were passing through one of the most turbulent periods economically.

The president who was addressing a press conference at State House directed Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines (ZCCM) to use its buying agencies within the European Economic Community (EEC) as Zambia's sole buying agencies abroad.

Dr Kaunda was speaking during an outdoor State House press conference during which he outlined the government's cost-saving strategy to revive the economy.

Zambia was now in an economic war whose duration no one could accurately predict.

It was therefore imperative for everyone to stop pretending that things were normal and start living according to the changed circumstances.

"This crisis will perhaps be with us for a long, long time to come. Let us accept this new situation and stop pretending." We are all going to have to reduce our standards of living, the president said.

The president said the administration of foreign exchange continued to worry him and he took a swipe at Zambians who continued to import luxuries when Zambia was clearly in its worst economic crisis.

Defends Central Committee System

MB201725 Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 14 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] President Kaunda has strongly defended the party Central Committee and said those advocating its abolition did not want the peace that prevailed in Zambia.

Dr Kaunda said the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had never demanded the removal of the Central Committee as a condition for further loan facilities.

Those who were agitating for its removal hated peace because since it was introduced the system had worked extremely well.

He warned critics of the Central Committee not to "play with the people's lives" because the system had proved satisfactory and only those who wanted chaos could be foolish enough to tamper with it.

Dr Kaunda, who became emotional on the subject, said he was proud to be personally associated with the establishment of the Central Committee which he regarded as essential to the peace and stability of the nation.

The system, which had at one time been viewed unkindly by Western diplomats, had now been fully accepted as "a unique Zambian system" which worked well.

Announces Cabinet Changes

MB201709 Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 14 Jan 83 p 1

[Excerpts] President Kaunda yesterday announced a minor reshuffle in which he appointed Prime Minister Mundia as minister of finance in a move aimed at tightening government control and planning of the economy.

A new Ministry of Cooperatives has been created to be headed by a minister of state who would come under the Department of Industrial Participatory Democracy.

The changes were announced at State House yesterday during a press conference.

Mr Mundia will be assisted by a minister of state to whom he would delegate functions such as attendance at international conference if required or it he was unable to travel himself.

The ministerial committee on foreign exchange had been scrapped and Mr Mundia would have free reign to examine the foreign exchange administration and make apt recommendations.

Making other changes, Dr Kaunda said General Chinkuli would go back to the Ministry of Power, Transport, and Communications after the suspension of Mr Rajah Kunda as cabinet minister following his alleged involvement in the Kanyama funds scandal.

ZIMBABWE

STATE OF EMERGENCY EXTENDED ANOTHER 6 MONTHS

MB210712 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The House of Assembly voted overwhelmingly today to extend the state of emergency for another 6 months. This is sixth time since independence that the state of emergency has been renewed. The only dissenters were the six members of the Republic Front in the House of Assembly. An independent MP, Mr (James Brush), said although the state of emergency is not welcome to most members of the House, it is necessary in the national interest.

MINISTER SAYS FUEL SUPPLY TO IMPROVE 'VERY SOON'

AB201822 Paris AFP in English 1757 GMT 20 Jan 83

[By Jean-Michel Stoullig]

[Text] Harare, Jan. 20 (AFP) -- Fuel supplies in Zimbabwe which have been lacking for six weeks will improve "very soon", and the government has worked out a "rational long term fuel control system" with its neighbours to assure better distribution of oil coming through the Mozambican port of Beira, Energy Minister Simba Makoni told Parliament here today. Mr Makoni gave no details of the system worked out with Malawi and Mozambique on supplies coming through the 300 kilometre (195-mile) pipeline, which a reliable source said had resumed pumping last week following sabotage by the rebel Mozambican Resistance Movement (MNR). The minister said that the pipeline could be defended militarily, and praised recent measures by the Mozambican Government, but he refused to confirm reports from reliable sources that several hundred Zimbabwean troops were already guarding the line.

Insisting that larger quantities of fuel could be brought through the pipeline more quickly than could be brought by road tankers, Mr Makoni appealed for unity to ensure "the very survival of this young (?nation)." The direct cause of the fuel shortage here was the sabotage of oil storage tanks at Beira on December 9, reportedly by the South African-backed MNR or by South African commandos themselves.

In a reference to South Africa Mr Makoni said the sabotage was part of the "geopolitical-cum-economic conflict caused by a militaristic political clique hellbent on not only destabilising but in fact defeating young democratic and progressive systems in this region." Mr Makoni himself has been criticised in the pro-government press for refusing to reveal any rationing measures he was contemplating, despite lengthy queues at filling stations.